

A SELECTION
OF THE
Patriotic Addresses,
TO THE
PRESIDENT
OF THE
UNITED STATES.

TOGETHER WITH
The President's Answers.

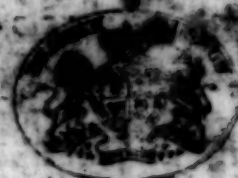
PRESENTED.
In the year One Thousand Seven Hundred
and Ninety-Eight, and the Twenty-
Second of the Independence
of America.

Boston:
PRINTED BY JOHN W. FOLSOM,
No. 30, Union-Street.

1798.

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DEDICATION.

TO THE
French Directory.

GENTLEMEN,

PERMIT me to address to you a work, which originated under your own hands. If there be any merit in it, if a noble spirit pervade it, if the principles of Greece and Rome, in their most illustrious days, concentrate in this volume, no little glory is due to you; for you inspire it. Like fire in a flint, this volume has still been latent in the American bosom, had not your inimitable art excited it. While we thank you for the noble arm, which you have roused from Vermont to Georgia, we also acknowledge our obligation to you, for your fathering care of our concerns, and for your unprecedented, sincere and disinterested professions, which have arisen to such a height, that you would willingly adopt our whole nation, as your own!

Although this volume contains a summary
of

of American, popular sentiment, on the genuineness of which you may rely : still to be ingenuous, we must confess, there are a certain few here, notorious indeed for their profession of friendship to you, but who are in reality your worst enemies. Believe me, Gentlemen, these ungrateful wretches, whom you have reared, fed and moulded to your own form and comeliness, have invariably deceived you. You have depended solely on them for information respecting us, your allies : none of them have remitted you a true statement of popular sentiment. They have abused your confidence ; and nearly ruined your influence in this country. As a friend to truth, I will undeceive you, and dissipate those clouds of error in which you are involved, through the false insinuations of your agents ; and this without a douceur for my service.

Rest assured, we are the same people whom you admired in time past ; we are not unworthy of our ancestors ; we have not deservedly lost your esteem. WARREN was not the last of the Americans ; and WASHINGTON, who, twenty years since, converted his spear to a pruning-hook, has lately reconverted his pruning-hook to a spear. We love peace, we confess ; yet let not this, we pray you, imply an idea derogatory to our valor ; we love it so ardently,

DEDICATION.

dently, we will fight for it. But it is the great principle with us, to wield the Pest first, if that fail, the Sword. Speak, Sir, if this principle be the genuine spring of America, (and that it is, this volume carries with it, an internal evidence) are we not worthy of the esteem of the "magnanimous Republic?"

Fully impressed with the idea, that these addresses, which I have selected from a vast number, will be of great service to you in appropriating our American character, I have collected this volume, entirely for your use, and request no other favor, than, to anticipate the inference, to wit,——France! remember Britain!

EDITOR.

P.S. Should you request a second and third volume, they shall be forwarded immediately.



NOTICE

Whereas the undersigned has been appointed by the Court of Sessions of the County of Middlesex, one of the Clerks of the said Court, to receive and pay the monies due to the said Court, and to issue receipts for the same, he hereby gives notice that he will receive and pay the same at his Office, at the Court House, in the County of Middlesex, on the first day of the month of January, next, and on every day thereafter, until the said monies are received and paid.

Witness my hand and seal, this first day of the month of January, 1841.

JOHN B. BARNES, Clerk of the Court of Sessions of the County of Middlesex.

Printed and Published by J. B. BARNES, at the Court House, in the County of Middlesex.

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ADDRESSES

TO
THE PRESIDENT, &c.

VERMONT.

To the **PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.**

SIR,

WE, the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the town of Windsor, in the State of Vermont, deeply impressed with the critical situation, to which our Country is reduced, by the ambitious views, secret intrigues and nefarious conduct of a foreign nation, aided by unprincipled and designing men of our own Country, conceive it our duty to declare to you our fullest approbation of your conduct in this arduous and important conjuncture of public affairs.

At the same time permit us, Sir, to assure you and the Congress of the United States, that although peace is the most ardent wish of our hearts; yet it is a peace founded upon

8 PATRIOTIC

upon the great principles of national independence and honor, which shall not be degraded by the officious interference, imperious demands, or the piratical depredations of any nation on earth, and that we are ready and willing to pledge our lives and fortunes in support of such measures as the national government may think best to adopt to protect our commerce, defend our country from insults, and maintain our independence and liberties inviolate.



To the INHABITANTS of the town of WINDSOR in the State of VERMONT.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, presented to me by your Senators in Congress, Mr. Paine and Mr. Chipman.

Your attachment to peace on the principles of national independence and honor, not degraded by the officious interference, imperious demands, or piratical depredations of any nation, is amiable.

The pledges of your lives and fortunes in support of such measures, as the national government may think best to adopt, to protect our commerce, defend our country

ADDRESSES

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from infat and maintain our independence
and liberties inviolate, and honorable to you,
and acceptable to your country.

JOHN ADAMS.

TO JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

PERMIT the inhabitants of the town of
Arlington and Sandgate, in the county of
Bennington in the State of Vermont, with
the greatest respect to approach the Execu-
tive, and solemnly avow those sentiments,
which for years we have cherished, and
which at this time we think it criminal to
suppress.

Long have we seen foreign influence
prevailing, and endangering the peace and
independence of our country—Long have
we seen with silent painful sensations, the
excesses of dissensions and violence men,
impeding the progress of our well-
meaning citizens, and preventing them to
reach measures as would suit the glory of
our country, and promote her liberties at
the feet of Freedom.

Long have we seen our nation departing
from her precious professions of emancipa-
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ting the enslaved, and following the steps of ambitious tyrants on the road to universal empire. And while we imagined that so many, with intemperate zeal, appeared willing to sacrifice every thing to our glory, we charitably hoped, in times like the present, they would cheerfully rally around the standard of government. But our hopes blasted—the veil is now removed from their eyes, and the spell is broken. Suffer us, Sir, with perfect sincerity, to declare that the Executive and Government of the United States have ever had our confidence. We have no attachment or exclusive friendship for any foreign nation. America is our country. To support such measures as our Executive and administration have or may adopt for the safety and defence of our national dignity and independence, we pledge ourselves with whatever we hold dear. And while we gratefully acknowledge the goodness of Heaven for a revolution happily calculated to bring our people and freedom, and for the wisdom, firmness and justice with which the government of these United States has been administered, and which has been our security from foreign bondage, we ardently pray that the invaluable life of the President may be continued, the time of his usefulness prolonged, his administration prospered, and any his conduct, amid those harassing cares and trying circumstances,

circumstances, which are inseparable from his exalted station, merited the merited acknowledgment of the present and of unborn generations.

*To the INHABITANTS of the TOWNS of AR-
LINGTON and SANDGATE, in the county
of BENNINGTON, in the State of VER-
MONT.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address which has been presented to me by Mr. Chapman, one of your senators in Congress.

Sentiments like yours, which have been entertained for years, it would be at this time, inexcusable not to express. If you have long seen foreign influence prevailing, and endangering the peace and independence of our country, so have I: if you have long seen, with painful sensations, the exertions of dangerous and restless men, misapplying the understandings of our well-meaning citizens, and prompting them to such measures, as would sink the glory of our country, and prostrate her liberties at the feet of France, so also have I.

I have seen in the conduct of the French nation, for the last twelve years, a repetition of their character displayed under Louis the fourteenth, and little more, excepting the extravagancies,

extravagancies, which have been intermixed with it, of the wildest philosophy, which was ever professed in this world. Since the building of Babel, and the Fables of the Giants, who, by piling mountains on mountains, invaded the skies. If the spell is broken, let human nature exult and rejoice. The veil may be removed from the eyes of many, but I fear not of all. The snare is not yet entirely broken, and we are not yet escaped.

If you have no attachments, or exclusive friendship for any foreign nation, you possess the genuine character of true Americans.

The pledge of yourselves, and dearest enjoyments, to support the measures of government, shews that your ideas are adequate to the national dignity, and that you are worthy to enjoy its independence and sovereignty.

Your prayers for my life and usefulness, are too affecting to me to be enlarged upon.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT and CONGRESS of the
UNITED STATES.

WE, the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council and Freemen of the city of Vergennes, in the county of Addison, and State of

of Vermont, though deeply impressed with the train of lawless and unprovoked aggressions of the French nation upon our lawful commerce, the repeated insults upon our government, the neglect and even studied contempt with which our messengers of peace and accommodation have been treated, the general system of policy by them adopted and perseveringly pursued, equally destructive to the rights of persons, of things and of nations, and especially the dangerous influence of that policy upon the United States; yet feel a security in the wisdom, rectitude, firmness and moderation of the Executive, and of Congress, in this eventful crisis. The official conduct of the supreme Executive demands the highest confidence of the citizens of the United States, and their most unequivocal expressions of approbation and applause. And we cherish the pleasing hope that the united councils of the government, under the guidance of the Supreme Disposer of events, will still save us from the destruction with which we are so unjustly threatened. And while we express our confidence in the Executive and in Congress, we cannot conceal our indignation at the conduct of these pretended patriots, whose studies and labours (not to call in question their views) are uniformly calculated to shackle the measures of administration, divide the American people from
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their government, and render both subservient to foreign influence. But thanks to Heaven, we are not that degraded, nationless people, who will tamely lay our well-won glory and national happiness in the scale with the barbarian demands of spoliators, and the insatiable rapacity of the changeful, dependent ministers of foreign faction.

The perfidious republic which boasts of its *terror* and *prowess* to us, is more terrible in vices and impieties, than in arms: and though we wish to remain in the refreshing shades of our fruitful vine, yet at our country's call we will cheerfully quit them to gather laurels in the rugged field of Mars. Our lives and our property, even to the last mite, are devoted to our country, and we freely pledge them in her cause, to be used against any nation on earth, which with sacrilegious finger shall dare to touch the holy ark of our national rights,



To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN, COMMON COUNCIL and FREEMEN of VERGENNES, in the County of ADDISON, and State of VERMONT.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address to the President and Congress, has been presented to me by your senators,

senators, Mr. Paine and Mr. Chipman, and your representative, Mr. Morris,

Your opposition to that policy, (if indeed it can be called policy) which is equally destructive of persons, things and nations, does honor to your understandings and dispositions.

The only security we have under Heaven, is in the wisdom, rectitude, firmness and moderation of Congress.

Your approbation of the conduct of the supreme executive authority of government, is very pleasing; but you should remember it can do no more than execute the laws.

If the united councils of our country can save us from the destruction with which we are so unjustly threatened, it can only be under the guidance of the Supreme Disposer, by the united valor, constancy and exertions of the people. All who recollect the history of Vermont and its inhabitants, will easily understand them when they declare their resolution, at the call of their country, to quit their refreshing shades and fruitful vines to gather laurels in the field of Mars.

Your lives and your property will not be pledged in vain against the nation which, with sacrilegious hand, shall touch the ark of your national rights.

JOHN ADAMS.

P A T R I O T I C
NEW-HAMPSHIRE.



To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a time when the American nation is on the point of being drawn into the calamities of war, we flatter ourselves that an address from the Legislature of New-Hampshire will not be unacceptable.

Permit us, Sir, to express our entire satisfaction in the wisdom and energy of your administration and that of your predecessor. Your unremitted perseverance which has marked your endeavours to adjust and settle our disputes with France, displays in the strongest colours your desire of peace. Although the political situation of this country is distressing and alarming, yet no measures on your part have been wanting that could honorably render it otherwise.

We consider the instructions given our envoys, sufficient and ample for every purpose of honorable and equitable negociation. We feel the indignity which has been offered them—we feel with resentment the wrongs and injuries done our commerce, by French depredations. A firm request and dignified demand, has not procured us redress: And we add, with regret, that we fear the apparent

ent disposition of the government of France renders further negotiation unnecessary.

We do not tax ourselves with ingratitude to the French nation. That debt which we contracted under the monarchy of France, we anticipated and paid to the executive government of that country ; and it will always be recollected that we were the first nation to acknowledge the Republic of France.

It is with pleasure we contemplate the increasing firmness of our national Legislature. By union, our independence can be maintained ; by division it is lost forever. To divide and conquer, has been (we are sensible) too often and successfully practised to the destruction of governments and nations : But we are happy to assure you, that the opposition in the State of New-Hampshire to the administration of the federal government, is much too contemptible to merit the name of division..

Although we deprecate the evils and scourges of war ; yet, Sir, we more sensibly feel the insults offered the dignity of our country. Our independence was won and established by the blood and fatigues of the brave. It is a boon which we will never sacrifice at the shrine of foreign rapacious ambition. If declining Rome bought her peace of the ancient Gauls with money, yet

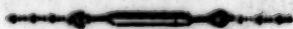
we shall never give our consent to pay a disgraceful tribute to Gauls more modern.

When our country calls, our war-worn soldiers and the hardy youth of our hills, at the first sound of the clarion of danger, will cheerfully and unitedly rally around the standard of American independence, and defend it with their blood.

The disorganizer may seek protection under the colours of France; but as for us and our constituents, we will shelter ourselves under the wings of the American Eagle.

Accept, Sir, our united declaration to support and defend the constituted authorities of our country, with our lives and fortunes.

Accept, Sir, our warmest wishes for your personal welfare and happiness. Long may you continue to watch over the safety of the community.



To the LEGISLATURE *of* NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

GENTLEMEN,

MY most respectful and affectionate thanks are due to your two honorable Houses for an address, transmitted to me by your excellent governor, and presented to me by your representatives in Congress.

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The American nation appears to me as it does to you, on the point of being drawn into the vortex of European war—your entire satisfaction in the administration of the federal government, and in the perseverance which has marked its endeavours to adjust our disputes with France, is very precious to me. Distressing and alarming as the political situation of this country is, I am conscious that no measures on my part have been wanting that could have honorably rendered it otherwise. The indignities which have been so repeatedly offered to our ambassadors, the greatest of which is the last unexampled insult, in choosing out one of the three, and discarding the other two, the wrongs and injuries to our commerce, by French depredations, the legal declaration, in effect, of hostilities against all our commerce, and the apparent disposition of the government of France, to render further negotiation not only nugatory, but disgraceful and ruinous. You may tax the French government with ingratitude, with much more justice than yourselves.

The increasing union among the people and their legislatures, is as encouraging as it is agreeable. The precept "divide and conquer" was never exemplified in the eyes of mankind in so striking and remarkable a manner as of late in Europe! Every old republic has fallen before it. If America
has

has not spirit and sense enough to learn wisdom from the example of so many republican catastrophies passing in review before her eyes, she deserves to suffer, and most certainly will fall.—I am happy to assure you, that as far as my information extends, the opposition to the federal government in all the other states, as well as in New-Hampshire, is too small to merit the name of division ; it is a difference of sentiment on public measures, not an alienation of affection to their country.

The war-worn soldiers, and the brave and hardy sons of New-Hampshire, second to none in skill, enterprize or courage in war, will never surrender the independence, or consent to the dishonour of their country.

I return my warmest wishes for your health and happiness.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

THE subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, State of New-Hampshire, conceiving the present moment to be one of those critical periods, when political necessity, calls aloud for the public voice to advocate the measures of its own government, and cheerfully to offer the supreme Executive,
tive,

tive, and the Congress of the Union, the most determined and unequivocal support, in maintaining measures that have been, or may be adopted for the interest, honor and independence of the United States. They therefore beg leave to express their high sense and approbation of the wisdom and probity which have characterised the various efforts of our executive, for effecting a permanent reconciliation with France; and finding that the Directory has endeavoured to impose such terms as cannot be accepted without the vilest prostration of national interest, honor and independence. They therefore offer their property to support, and their lives to defend, those dear-bought, sacred and inalienable rights; being fully resolved to rally round the banners of their country, and follow the standard of government, making every possible effort to convince the world, and more especially the unfriendly powers of Europe, that they are not the divided people they have been represented to be, neither will they be the slaves nor dupes of any nation upon the face of the globe.

TO JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT *of the*
UNITED STATES.

AMIDST the numerous addresses from
our fathers and brethren, throughout United
America,

America, on the present critical situation of our country, replete with just indignation at the unparalleled conduct towards us, of an imperious unprincipled European power; and with assurances of the most perfect acquiescence in, and firmest support of every measure which has been, or may be, pursued by our Executive for the security of our national honor and independence: The Youth of Portsmouth, though sensible their suffrage will add comparatively little to the general mass of patriotism so worthily displayed; yet impelled by a sense of duty, and animated by the same ardent attachment to the constitution and laws of their country, joined to the most profound respect for its chief magistrate, they beg leave also to address him on this occasion.

Though at the commencement of our great and glorious revolution, few of us were even in existence; yet have we since often listened with enthusiastic rapture to the wondrous tale. With astonishment have we been told by actors in that sublime scene, of the wisdom, prudence, firmness, perseverance and bravery displayed by the fathers and defenders of our country, in the cabinet and the field, under every disadvantage of infancy, inexperience and poverty, against the most opulent and powerful nation on the globe, till peace, liberty and independence were obtained and established on the firmest foundation.

These

These blessings having received as our birth-right, we will never part with but with life. Purchased as they were by the blood and treasure of our gallant ancestors without our aid : We will defend them with the last drop and particle of our own, and endeavour to prove ourselves worthy the rich inheritance.

With the justest abhorrence of the perfidy, duplicity, rapacious avarice, and daring insolence, pride and injustice of a nation who once possessed, and might still have possessed almost every American heart : We are forcibly impressed with the striking contrast of our own government, which while it secures the approbation of our seniors, excites in us the highest admiration and applause. And while we now solemnly tender our persons and lives in defence of our country, its government, laws and institutions, against all attempts to destroy, subvert or impair them ; we cannot but declare that we think it a most prosperous omen, that Providence has placed at the head of government, at this alarming crisis, to defend our national honor and independence, a man, who, like his illustrious predecessor, had so large a share in procuring those invaluable blessings.

To

*To the YOUNG MEN of PORTSMOUTH, in
the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.*

GENTLEMEN,

THIS handsome address from the youth of Portsmouth, evinces the same spirit and principles which animate the rising generation in general throughout the United States, and is not less agreeable to me than any I have before received.

The opinion you have formed of the wisdom, prudence, firmness, perseverance and bravery of your fathers, is not exaggerated, and their example is worthy of your imitation. They have another merit, which I may recollect with propriety ;—they have educated their sons in their own principles, and inspired into them their own virtues ; a fact which is every day more and more apparent, and forms the surest foundation of hope and confidence for our country.

Nothing can be more flattering to my heart, than the confidence in me, manifested by you, and your contemporaries, through the Union in general—may it never be disappointed.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

From the STUDENTS of DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY, to JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

GROWING up from our cradles in a land of liberty, and taught, by precept and experience, to value the blessings of a free government, we feel an indignation at any attempt to stain its honor, or trouble its peace.

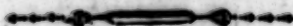
We are young, without experience ; it therefore becomes us to be diffident in regard to measures of political practice. But when the rulers of a foreign nation are endeavouring to prostrate our liberties ; are flattering themselves that the people of these states are taking a part separate from the government, and in this delusion are calculating their influence over us ; while men of different professions and ages, from various parts of our land, are expressing their approbation of the measures of government ;—we solicit that you would accept a tribute of duty and respect from us, a band of youth, members of a seat of science, in the northern region of an extensive republic ; and that you would be assured of our love, our attachment, our confidence in your administration, and the legislative bodies, in regard to our foreign as well as domestic interests.

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If,

If, notwithstanding the measures which have been wisely proposed, and prudently applied and executed, for accommodating difficulties with the French, that nation should still continue in the spirit of domination and practice of abuses towards us; if our government should think it necessary to change the scene of negociation from the cabinet to the field of battle; we offer our zeal, our activity and our lives, to repel the foe that would make us slaves.

At your command, illustrious magistrate of a great people, we will hasten to the standard of freemen and warriors.



To the STUDENTS of DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY, in the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, presented to me by Mr. Freeman, your representative in Congress.

Your modest diffidence, in regard to measures of political practice, well becomes your age, and the pursuits of science and literature, which have, as they ought, occupied hitherto, the most of your time; but it behoves you to consider well the situation of your country, at the time you are to enter on the stage of life, and prepare yourselves for the part you must act.

Be

Be assured, that your tribute of duty and respect, your love, attachment and confidence, are words of precious import which cannot be considered by me as words of course, nor as words of art.

The offer of your zeal, activity and lives, to repel the foe that would make us slaves, in case your government should determine it necessary to change the scene of negotiation for the field of battle, is very amiable and affecting. You cannot all be soldiers; society must be supplied with the ordinary professions and faculties, in time of war, as well as in peace. Those of you who feel an inclination to a life of danger and glory, may find employment for all the activity and enterprize of your genius in due time.

Let me intreat you, and all my young friends in America, whether students or men of business, not to be dazzled by the splendor, or intimidated by the horror of modern events. Remember that the Roman republic was revived in the fourteenth century, that Rienzi was as famous as the modern heroes—Petrarch was his friend and admirer—that atheism and blasphemy were as prevalent and fashionable then as they are now, at least in Italy. Let not a young country, and the only really growing empire in the world, be corrupted and ruined by such extravagancies.

JOHN ADAMS.

P A T R I O T I C
M A S S A C H U S E T T S.



To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE Legislature of Massachusetts, ever anxious and long habituated to take an early and decided part in whatever relates to the safety and welfare of their country, beg leave to join the united voice of your fellow citizens, in offering you a testimony of their respect and confidence,

As a native citizen of our commonwealth, and as the supreme Executive of the government of our deliberate choice, we feel for you those sentiments of attachment and veneration, which the recollection of your long, distinguished and successful services are calculated to excite;—and if the measures of a wise and virtuous administration, such as we believe your's to have been, can receive aid or sanction from our most decided and unequivocal approbation, our duty in expressing it will be discharged with increased satisfaction.

It is with a mixture of indignation and regret, that we learn the state of our negotiations with the French republic. From a careful review of our relations with France, and of the unremitting efforts of the national government,

government, to preserve and perpetuate her friendship, we might readily have believed that there could be no crisis in the progress of her political career, in which our tranquillity could have been disturbed. But amidst the collision of parties, France has lost the object of her revolution. She once fought for liberty,—she now contends for dominion; and having declared by the voice of her executive, that “she ought to become the model and the arbiter of nations,” has violated the rights of every neutral people, and prostrated the governments of most of the republics of Europe.

Should any further attempts, either to controul the government, or subjugate the people of the United States, be the result of her inordinate ambition, the citizens of Massachusetts will meet them with the firm and determined spirit of freemen; and as they have been among the first to defend, will be the last to resign the rights of national sovereignty.

In this all-important conflict, we expect the ready and zealous co-operation of the free and enlightened people of America: and our country, having adopted every reasonable measure to avert the calamities of war, may, with humble confidence, rely upon the God of our fathers, for protection and success.

A people, by whom the blessings of civil and religious liberty are enjoyed and duly appreciated, will never surrender them but with their lives. We will never forget that our charter to this liberty is sealed with the blood of Americans. And we pledge to you the patriotism and all the energies of our constituents, that it shall never be violated by the sacrilegious hand of foreign power. We also most solemnly pledge ourselves, to support every measure, which the government of the United States, at this momentous period may see fit to adopt, to protect the commerce, and preserve the independence of our country.



To the LEGISLATURE of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

AN affectionate and respectful address from your two honorable Houses, has been presented to me, according to your request, by your senators and representatives in Congress.

The anxiety, the ancient and constant habit of the people of Massachusetts and their legislature, to take an early and decided part in whatever relates to the safety and welfare of their country; as well as their ardor, activity, valor and ability in its defence by sea and land, are well known, and ought to be acknowledged by all the world.

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The first forty years of my life were passed in my native Massachusetts, in a course of education and professional career, which led me to a very general acquaintance in every part of that state. If with your opportunities, and pressing motives for observation, and experience, you can pronounce my services successful and administration virtuous, and the people of fifteen other states could concur with you in that opinion, my reward would be complete, and my most ardent wishes gratified.

If the object of France, in her revolution, ever was liberty, it was a liberty very ill defined and never understood. She now aims at dominion such as never has before prevailed in Europe. If with the principles, maxims and systems of her present leaders, she is to become the model and arbiter of nations, the liberties of the world will be in danger. Nevertheless, the citizens of Massachusetts, who were first to defend, will be among the last to resign the rights of our national sovereignty.

You have great reason to expect, in this all-important conflict, the ready and zealous co-operation of the free and enlightened people of America, and with humble confidence to rely on the God of our fathers for protection and success.

With

With you I fully agree, that a people by whom the blessings of civil and religious liberty are enjoyed, and duly appreciated, will never surrender them but with their lives. The patriotism and the energies of your constituents, united with those of the people of the other states, are a sure pledge, that the charter of your civil and religious liberties sealed by the blood of Americans, will never be violated by the sacrilegious hand of foreign power.

The solemn pledge of yourselves to support every measure which the government of the United States, at this momentous period, may see fit to adopt to protect the commerce and preserve the independence of our country, must afford an important encouragement to the national government, and contribute greatly to the union of the people throughout all the states.

JOHN ADAMS.

*To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT, and to
the CONGRESS of the UNITED STATES.*

THE subscribers, inhabitants and citizens of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, deeply impressed with the critical and alarming situation of the United States;—and convinced of the necessity of unanimity and firmness at this interesting moment, beg leave

to express to the supreme Executive, and the Congress of the United States, their fullest approbation of the measures adopted by the President, relative to our foreign relations, their gratitude for his exertions to conciliate the French republic, and his solicitude to settle and accommodate all existing differences, upon terms compatible with the safety, the interest, and the dignity of the United States.

They beg leave also to express their high and elevated opinion of, and confidence in, the virtue, the wisdom, and the prudence of the national government, and their fixed resolution to support, at the risk of their lives and fortunes, such measures as the President and Congress, in their wisdom shall determine to be necessary to promote and secure the honor and happiness of the United States ;—Nor can they omit, at this crisis, and upon such an occasion, to declare to the world, that they are not humiliated under a colonial sense of fear ;—"they are not a divided people : " that they know their rights, and are determined to support them.

*To the INHABITANTS and CITIZENS of
BOSTON.*
GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for the declaration of your approbation of the measures adopted by

by me, relative to our foreign relations, to conciliate the French republic, and to accommodate all existing difference, upon terms compatible with the safety, the interest, and the dignity of the United States.

Your high and elevated opinion of, and confidence in the virtue, wisdom and patriotism, of the national government, and fixed resolution to support at the risk of your lives and fortunes, such measures as may be determined to be necessary to promote and secure, the honor and happiness of the United States, do you honor, and are perfectly in character.

It must, however, be a very unnatural, and peculiar state of things, to make it necessary, or proper, in you, or any other American in your behalf, to declare to the world, what the world ought to have known and acknowledged without hesitation—that you are not humiliated under a colonial sense of fear,—that you are not a divided people, in any point which involves the honor, safety, and essential rights of your country,—that you know your rights, and are determined to support them.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

AT a period, when a powerful and perfidious nation, aspiring to the domination of the world, annuls in the career of her pride, all bonds of national amity; when the most conciliating measures which the pacific disposition of our government has adopted, have been repelled with indignity, silence would become cowardice, and neutrality treason.

At this eventful crisis, the Young Men of Boston, solemnly impressed with the ideas of independence, which they have derived from their ancestors, in that unequivocal language which admits of no adulation, beg leave to express to the first magistrate of the Union, their sentiments and resolutions.

Ushered into life at a time when our fathers were struggling for the rights to which God and nature entitled them, we date our existence coeval with the independence of our country. With our first breath we imbibed a detestation of servility to any nation, and we have not yet learned to submit to the humiliation of foreign controul.

As Americans, we feel an enthusiasm in applauding your arduous administration, together with that of your illustrious predecessor, ever designated by the firmest virtue,
which

which danger has not been able to appal, and obloquy has in vain assailed. While we have admired the dignified moderation, which has marked the successive attempts at a reconciliation with our Gallic allies, we have witnessed with regret our proffered terms of adjustment, contemptuously rejected by the rapacity of avarice, and the insolence of power. The insulding demands by which France has so glaringly developed her punic faith, and her insidious designs, we conceive would be more characteristic of the despotic requisitions of a conqueror, than of proposals to a high spirited, and we believe, an unconquerable people.

Although we presume not to arrogate to ourselves the office of judging on intricate questions of politics, yet where gratitude claims the tribute, we must feelingly eulogize the un sullied patriotism and uniform wisdom of our Supreme Executive.

Justly appreciating the sweets of peace and the reign of equal laws, spurning acquiescence to any presumptuous power to the degradation of national honor, and determined to guard the inviolability of our constitution, as the palladium of our rights, we the youth of Boston, united by indissoluble ties in one common love to our country, most solemnly offer, when its voice demands the energy of action, to sacrifice our youthful

ful professions and promises, which, in the
 arm of submission, have been the harbours
 of oppression, and the sources of blood
 and tears. The only remedy, which
 never is to be rejected, is the establishment of
 public faith, the maintenance of peace, and
 the preservation of independence.

To the Young Men of Berzon.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is impossible for you to enter your
 own Fancy Hall, or to throw your eyes
 on the variegated mountains, and elegant
 islands around you, without recollecting the
 principles and actions of your fathers, and
 feeling what is due to their example:—One
 of our first principles was to establish a
 character of citizens and soldiers,
 and especially to preserve the same always
 subordinate to the former.

With much kindness for your welfare,
 and love of your posterity, I take the free-
 dom to say, that this country never appeared
 to me to be in greater danger, than at this mo-
 ment, from within or without—never more
 urgently excited, to assume the functions of
 soldiers.

The state of the world is such, the situa-
 tion of all the nations of Europe, with which
 we have relation, is so critical, that vigilance

under would be expected, from whose deleterious influences, nothing but arms and energy can protect us:—To arms, then, my young friends, to arms, especially by sea, to be used as the laws shall direct, as our resort; for safety against dangers, which we now see and feel, cannot be secured by truth, reason, or justice.

Nothing in the earlier part of my public life, animated me more, than the countenances of the children and youth of the town of Boston; and nothing at this hour, gives me so much pleasure, as the masculine temper and talents, displayed by the youth of America, in every part of it.

I ought not to forget the worst enemy we have:—That obloquy, which you have observed, is the worst enemy to virtue, and the best friend to vice; it serves to destroy all distinction between right and wrong, it leads to divisions, sedition, civil war, and military despotism.—I need say no more.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the President and Congress of the
United States of America.

PENETRATED with a lively conviction
of the critical and very interesting situation

of our national Congress, the Senators, and inhabitants of the State of Ohio, in the Chamber of Representatives, are introduced to present the following address.

Sensible we are of the necessity of an interference from the people with the established administration of government, and we conceive occasions may arise, when an expression of the public sentiment may be highly important and beneficial. As such an one we view the present: when the leaders of a great nation are inflexibly pursuing the most injurious and baneful course against us; and flattering themselves with a prospect of success, by a separation of the people from the government.

It is our disposition, and, as far as our influence may extend, it shall be our endeavour to support and maintain the Constitution.

We are fully satisfied with the measures taken by the Executive, for we think maintaining the differences existing between the United States and the French Republic; and it is with sincere regret we learn that those measures have been unsuccessful.

We call with for peace and a restoration of harmony, with that republic. But should they remain implacable; should we be driven to extremities; depending supremely on the patronage of the Most High, we repeat
firm

firm confidence in the wisdom and fidelity of our rulers, with the steady patriotism and combined exertions of our fellow citizens, for maintaining a vigorous defence. We are determined, at every hazard, to support the government of our choice: and to those, to whom the powers of government are entrusted, we will afford our hearty concurrence and aid, for carrying into effect such measures as they may see fit to adopt; holding in the highest estimation our rights and interests as a free and independent people—those rights and interests for which we have once contended, and which it is our settled purpose never to resign.

*To the INHABITANTS of the Town of SALEM,
in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.*

THIS address, subscribed with such unanimity by the inhabitants of your most ancient town, whose simplicity, economy, industry, enterprize, intelligence; and consequent independence and opulence, form a model deserving the imitation of all your commercial fellow-citizens, ought to have great weight, wherever it appears.

The interference of the people, by respectful expressions of their sense to the legislature, (at all times their right) cannot be denied

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denied to be expedient at such a time as this, when the leaders of a great nation are inflexibly pursuing the most injurious and baneful design against us, and securing themselves with a prospect of success, by a separation of the people from the government. Of your disposition and endeavours to disappoint these expectations, no man, who knows you, will doubt.

Your satisfaction with the measures of the Executive is very grateful to me; and your supreme dependence on the patronage of the Most High—the firm confidence you repose in the wisdom and fidelity of our rulers, with the steady patriotism, and combined exertions, of our fellow citizens, for maintaining a vigorous defence—I trust will not be disappointed.

The determination, at every opportunity, to support the government of your country, and the high estimation in which you hold your rights, as a free, independent people, for which you have once contended, and which it is your sacred privilege never to resign, are worthy of your character, and will be fully crowned by all the world.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the President of the United States.

SIR,

THE inhabitants of the town of Newbury-Port, fully impressed with the present important crisis of public affairs, are prompted no less by a sense of duty than by their own feelings, to express those sentiments, which the occasion so naturally inspires in the breast of every American. From the long experience of your conduct in the many public offices to which you have been called by your own country, they feel the most perfect confidence in your wisdom, integrity and patriotism; and they with cheerfulness declare their entire approbation of your attempt to adjust all existing disputes with the French Republic, by an amicable negotiation: of that spirit of conciliation which was in your instructions to our ministers; and of the principles of justice on which they were founded. They learn with equal indignation and astonishment, that this spirit of conciliation has been repelled with contempt, that these principles of justice have been disregarded, and that a heavy tribute, with humiliating concessions on our part, have been proposed to us in a manner arbitrary and unfriendly, as the price at which we must purchase the right of being heard. The inhabitants of this town duly appreciate the blessings of peace and neutrality; but they

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they will never complain at the loss of those blessings, when constrained to sacrifice them to the honor, the dignity, and the essential interests of their country. They consider the present interesting state of public affairs as a solemn appeal to the hearts of all independent Americans, and a call on them to come forward with unanimity and firmness, in support of the government, and of the men of their choice—to resist with becoming dignity any vain attempt to derogate from our common sovereignty, or to degrade our national character from the rank it now justly holds among nations—to convince the world that we are alike, uninfluenced by corruption and by fear—and that, we will not be a divided people, the miserable slaves of a foreign power, or the despicable tools of foreign influence.

Impressed with these sentiments, and relying with full confidence on the wisdom and patriotism of every branch of government, they take this occasion solemnly to pledge their lives and fortunes to support the measures judged necessary by the President and Congress, to preserve and secure the happiness, the dignity, and the essential interest of the United States.

To

To the INHABITANTS of NEWBURY-PORT.
GENTLEMEN.

THE address of the inhabitants of the ancient, populous and wealthy town of Newbury-Port, passed without a dissentient voice at a late meeting, as certified by your selectmen, and presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Barber, does me great honor.

The astonishment and indignation you express at the contempt with which a spirit of conciliation has been repelled, your resolution never to complain at the loss of the blessings of peace and neutrality, when constrained to sacrifice them to the honor, dignity and essential interest of your country; to resist with becoming dignity any vain attempt to derogate from our country's sovereignty; or to degrade our national character from the rank it now justly holds among nations; to convince the world that you are alike unimpaired by corruption and by fear; that you are not a divided people, the miserable slaves of foreign influence; do equal honor to your hearts and judgment.

Your reliance, with full confidence on the wisdom and patriotism of every branch of the government, and the solemn pledge of your lives and fortunes to support the measures of the legislature and administration,

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to preserve and secure the happiness, dignity and essential interest of the United States; are all the assurances which the best of governments could desire from the best of citizens.

JOHN ADAMS.

TO JOHN ADAMS, President of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE Grand Jurors for the County of Plymouth, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, attending as directed by the Court for said County, have been led by their own reflections on the conduct of justice, and by the excellent and impressive observations of the chief Justice in his charge at the opening of the court, to contemplate the political situation of our country, which we have found it difficult to believe, our nation avowedly struggling for liberty and independence, should attempt to invade or impair those blessings which they are actually and fully enjoyed. But the experience of several of the last years of our history, has convinced us of our mistake. While occupied in our peaceful pursuits, we have seen the fruits of those labours plundered and condemned, on frivolous and groundless pretences, by professed friends. Our tranquility has been disturbed by incessant ap-
peals

peaks to the passions of the people, by factions and designing men; and by repeated and audacious attempts to separate the people from the government;—our sincere desire for peace has been met with neglect or contempt; and bold and extravagant demands, dictated by rapacity and a thirst for boundless rule, have been made the terms of negotiation. In such a crisis, when all that is dear and valuable to freemen, when liberty and independence, national honor, social order, and public safety appear to be in danger—a danger which union alone, under the blessing of heaven, can repel! We think it not improper to step aside from the ordinary duties of our office, and to express to you our grateful acknowledgments for the firmness and discretion with which you have discharged such new and peculiar obligations. We are assured that the energies of our common country, will aid you in such a cause.

We pray the God of all mercies to preserve the force of your mind undimmed, and in any arduous issue, to which the arts or arms of successful violence may compel us, we pledge ourselves as become faithful citizens of our happy country, to the main to come forward in the defence of all that is dear to us.

ADDRESSES.

To the GRAND JURY, for the County of PER-
MOUTH, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for your address,
which has been transmitted to me, accord-
ing to your request, by the chief justice of
the State.

Difficult as it is to believe that a nation
struggling or pretending to struggle for li-
berty and independence, should attempt to
invade or impair those blessings, where they
are quietly and fully enjoyed; yet thus it
is, that the United States of America are
not the only example of it.

While occupied in your peaceful employ-
ments, you have seen the fruits of your in-
dustry plundered by professed friends, your
tranquillity has been disturbed, by incessant
appeals to the passions and prejudices of the
people, by designing men, and by audacious
attempts to separate the people from the
government—and there is not a village in
the United States perhaps, which cannot tes-
tify to similar abuses.

Liberty, independence, national honor,
social order and public safety, appear to
you to be in danger; your acknowledg-
ment to me, therefore, are the more oblig-
ing and encouraging.

Your

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Your prayers for my preservation, and your pledge that in any arduous issue, to which the arts or arms of successful violence may compel us, you will, as becomes faithful citizens of this happy country, come forward as one man, in defence of all that is dear to us, are to me as affecting, as to the public they ought to be satisfactory sentiments—the more affecting to me, as they come from the most ancient settlement, in the northern part of the continent, held in peculiar veneration by me at all times.

JOHN ADAMS.

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To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WHEN we contemplate the wisdom and firmness, the integrity and magnanimity of our national Executive, we rejoice that we are men, we boast that we are Americans!

When Britain treated America with more than stepdame cruelty, the daring infant manfully asserted her rights, and bade defiance to her foe. A surviving few of us acted on the memorable 19th of April—we saw unheathed the first conquering sword—Concord drank the first blood of martyred freemen—here commenced a contest, dubious for Columbia; but by the perilous patriotism

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triotism of her sons, and the shining sword of God and Washington. She won her sovereign independence, and founded a growing empire on the indestructible basis of justice and equal rights.

We, Sir, having kept a watchful eye on your active merit, from the first days of your political existence, until you rose to the summit of political greatness, recognize with warmest gratitude your signal services, during the tempest of a revolution, which challenges obliterating time to blot it from the scroll of fame. We revere your lovable attachment to the interests of our country, which shone with eclat, in framing and defending our immortal constitution, which exhibits wisdom, inferior only to divine.

While we view with fullest satisfaction, peerless Washington's equitable administration, we cordially acquiesce, in the unflinching sagacity, the amiable disposition, and the vigorous measures now adopted by our Executive towards an aspiring power, who, unprovoked, has outraged the purity and perfidy of Gothic darkness and Vandal barbarity; who, has perpetrated crimes unparalleled in the history of man! France, grasping universal domination, has abandoned every moral and religious principle; trampled on sacred faith, sported with national laws, and demanded

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ed pecuniary exactions, which would bankrupt our nation, and render us slaves, instead of a free, sovereign and independent people. Shall we submit to these repeated insults, and humiliating demands, or resolve, in holy remembrance of those who bled, that we will defend by our valor, what they won by their blood? We would not dictate, but should the crisis demand, we will rally round the standard of our government, and under the direction of the concentrated wisdom of the union, make a free-will offering of our lives and fortunes, sooner than truckle to the mandates of any foreign power. We will gloriously perish in the attempt; or unsullied, transmit to posterity, what we received in early days, from those who are now transmitted to brighter worlds, or trembling beneath the weight of age.

We, in unison with the Union, will convince France and the world, that the divine enthusiasm of '75, glows in the bosom of each genuine American, and under Providence, will render Columbia as formidable to her foes, as was Michael's sword from the the armoury of God, to the rebel angels of Heaven!

To

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To the INHABITANTS OF CONCORD, MASS.
SACRAMENTO.
GENTLEMEN.

I THANK you for this address. Your encomium on the Executive authority of the national government, is in a degree highly flattering.

As I have ever wished to avoid, as far as prudence and necessity would permit, every concealment from my fellow citizens, of my real sentiments, in matters of importance, I will venture to ask you whether it is consistent with the peace we have made, the friendship we have stipulated, or even with civility, to express a marked resentment to a foreign power who is at war with another, whose ill will we experience every day, and who will, very probably, in a few weeks, be acknowledged an enemy in the sense of the law of nations? A power, too, which invariably acknowledged us to be a nation for fifteen years; a power that has never had the insolence to reject your ambassadors; a power that at present conveys your trade and their own at the same time. Immortal hatred, inextinguishable animosity, is neither philosophy, true religion, nor good policy. Our ancient maxim was, "Enemies in war, in peace friends."

If Concord drank the first blood of martyred freemen, Concord should be the first
to

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to forget the injury, when it is no longer useful to remember it. Some of you, as well as myself, remember the war of 1755, as well as that of 1775. War always has its horrors, and civil wars the worst.

If the contest you allude to was dubious, it was from extrinsic causes; it was from partial, enthusiastic and habitual attachment to a foreign country—not from any question of a parity of strength. It is highly useful to reflect—50,000 men upon paper, and 50,000 men in fact, was the highest number British ever had in arms in this country—compute the tonnage of ships necessary and actually employed, to transport these troops across the Atlantic; What were 50,000 men to the United States of America, in 1775? What would 50,000 be now in 1798?

Let not fond attachments, enthusiastic devotion, to another power, sacrifice the services of our citizens & sacred time, and all the ships in Europe that can be spared, collected and manned, will not be sufficient to bring to this country an army capable of any long contest.

Your compliments to me are far beyond my merits: Your confidence in the government, and determination to support it, are greatly to your honor.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

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From the INHABITANTS of the Town of HAVERHILL, in MASSACHUSETTS, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WHILE we disapprove an interference of the people with the administration of our national government, we consider it our duty, at this time, to assure you that the measures you have adopted and pursued, as first magistrate of the Union, have uniformly met our hearty concurrence.

In full confidence that those measures have been dictated by wisdom and the purest principles of patriotism, we cannot withhold the expression of our grateful thanks for your undeviating firmness in their execution.

Your late exertions to redress our wrongs, to accommodate differences unhappily existing between this country and the French republic, to conciliate the affections of our allies, to preserve our neutrality, to establish our peace and happiness, and above all, to support the independence, dignity and freedom of the United States, afford the highest evidence of the justice and wisdom of your administration; and demand, in an eminent degree, the gratitude of every patriotic American.

We humbly deprecate the calamities of war; but when the safety, the independence, the freedom of our country require—Under

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the direction of the government of our choice, imploring the blessings of heaven, we are prepared with our property, and at the hazard of our lives, to support our government, to vindicate our rights, and to defend our country.

To the INHABITANTS of the Town of HAVER-
HILL, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for a respectful and affectionate address, which has been presented to me by Mr. Bartlett, your representative in Congress.

The interference of the people with the administration of the national government, in ordinary cases, would be not only useless and unnecessary, but very inconvenient and expensive to them, if not calculated to disturb the public councils with prejudices, passions, local views, and partial interests which would better be at rest; but there are some great conjunctures in which it is proper, and in such a government as ours, perhaps necessary. If ever such an occasion can occur, the present is one.

Your assurance to me that the measures I have adopted, as first magistrate of the Union, have uniformly met your hearty concurrence, and your declaration that you are prepared with your property, and at the hazard

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ard of your lives, to support your government, vindicate your rights and defend your country, are to me great consolation.

JOHN ADAMS.

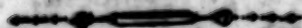
*To the PRESIDENT and CONGRESS of the
UNITED STATES.*

AT a crisis in which the dignity and independence of the United States is at stake—
at a moment when an union of sentiment is
necessary to be evinced—

The subscribers, inhabitants and citizens of the town of Gloucester, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, cannot fail of expressing their fullest approbation of the wise and magnanimous conduct of the President of the United States, relative to our foreign relations, more particularly for the measures adopted by him for the honorable adjustment of any existing difficulties between the French republic and this country, and his instructions to our envoys to effect this desirable purpose : Nor can they refrain from declaring their utmost confidence in the virtue, wisdom and prudence of the national government.

And while they deprecate the evils of war, should so unhappy an event take place, (which may God in his infinite mercy avert)
—They

—They most sacredly avow their determination to support the constitution, and at the risk of their lives and fortunes to preserve inviolate, the rights and liberties of their country.



*To the PRESIDENT and CONGRESS of the
UNITED STATES.*

AT this important crisis, we the subscribers, citizens of Roxbury, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in order to convince the world, as far as lies within our power, that the citizens of these states, are not a people separated from their government, but firmly attached to its interests; at the same time impressed with the fullest conviction, of the purity of their intentions, as well as the ability and wisdom of their administration, feel it our duty to declare in this explicit manner, an approbation of their conduct, and determination to support, with our lives and fortunes, such measures as they shall determine most conducive to the safety and prosperity of the nation.

In the convulsions of Europe, it is most devoutly to be wished, that America may not be involved:—That the freest, and most peaceable government in the world, may exercise its internal concerns, without any external

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external control or influence :— That no tribute or arbitrary exactions may ever be imperiously demanded ; and that the quest of peace may never be a signal degradation. With these sentiments, we beg leave to assure the whole government, that we will readily, and cheerfully co-operate in such measures, as our own authorities, lawfully constituted, shall deem necessary, to preserve the union, and support the independence of the United States of America.

—————

To the CITIZENS of Roxbury, in the State
of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

A RESPECTFUL address, to the President and Congress of the United States, subscribed by one hundred and thirty-four citizens of Roxbury, has been presented to me, by Mr. Ous, your representative in Congress.

Your testimony to the purity of the intentions, as well as to the ability and wisdom of the administration ; your approbation of their conduct, and determination to support with your lives and fortunes, such measures as they shall determine most conducive to the safety, and prosperity of the nation, are peculiarly agreeable to me.

It is indeed devoutly to be wished, that in the convulsions of Europe, America might not be involved—but the wishes, and prayers of the best of men, and most virtuous nations for peace, are not always heard—the wishes of America have been so obviously just and reasonable, that all the powers of Europe, appear to have shown them some respect, excepting one, which seems to have left us no alternative.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the President of the United States
of America.

SIR,

FULLY impressed with a sense of the importance of consulting the rulers of our own choice, especially when they have been long employed, and often times in the most trying circumstances, in the service of their country, and have ever been found faithful to its interests: We the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Cambridge, take the liberty at this important crisis of our public affairs, of expressing our high satisfaction in your administration.

The part you have frequently had to act in your various important and highly responsible public employments, has sometimes been attended with great difficulties and

and embarrassments; but you have ever discharged your duty with distinguished honor to yourself and advantage to these states. We are persuaded, Sir, that your situation could never have been more difficult and trying, than since you have been in your present office, especially as it has respected our dispute with France; but with pleasure we perceive from your late communications to Congress, that your whole conduct in this business has been marked with the highest wisdom, and that you have done every thing on your part, by the most prudent and conciliating measures to settle all differences between this country and that republic, upon principles of equity; while with just indignation we discover in the French government, a conduct directly the reverse, and requisitions, merely preparatory to negotiation, which, if complied with, would place us in the lowest state of degradation, and render us unworthy the character of a free, sovereign and independent nation. We have the firmest confidence, that the measures of our national government will continue to be marked, under your administration, with that integrity, wisdom and firmness which have distinguished it from its first establishment, and we trust, under Providence, will prove an impregnable defence.

Although we lament, Sir, the occasion, which seemed to require a disclosure of your instructions

Instructions to the American envoys, and of their communications; yet we rejoice most sincerely in its happy effect upon the public mind, which has been thereby awakened, enlightened and strengthened. This good effect is conspicuous in many of the discourses of this town, whose late resolves, memorial and address, implicitly condemning the views and administration of the Supreme Executive, were prematurely and inconsiderately adopted from partial and erroneous conceptions, and an honest, but misguided attachment to the French nation and government. While we offer this apology for those hasty proceedings, we cannot but express our unqualified disapprobation of them, as unfounded, improper, and highly injurious to the President of the Union.

The intrigues of the French rulers, and the principles upon which they have for a long time acted, of revolutionizing governments, even republics, with which they have no right to interfere, we abhor and will firmly oppose. We will not their aid to teach us the principles of national liberty or law to govern ourselves. As we will not tamely become tributary to gratify their avaricious and despotic views, so we revolt at the idea of suffering them to model our governments, or to dictate to us the persons who shall administer them.

Knowing

Knowing and feeling ourselves to be free and happy under our present government, we believe any change would be for the worse. Around the standard of our own government only will we rally; and we solemnly renew our obligations, and pledge ourselves to defend it to the utmost of our abilities, against domestic faction, and foreign influence or invasion, as against "the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction which wasteth at noonday."

Accept, Sir, our cordial congratulations on the present more favorable aspect of our national concerns. We hope that none will continue to assert, that the people of these states are separate from, and at enmity with their government; and we trust that the union, which so happily subsists among the citizens at large, will be followed by a perfect harmony in our public councils, in all measures requisite to a complete vindication and support of our dignity and interests, as a free, sovereign, and independent nation.

*To the INHABITANTS of the Town of CAM-
BRIDGE, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, sub-
scribed by so large a number of respectable
F names,

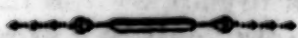
names, and for the expression of your satisfaction in my administration.

Difficulties were the inheritance to which I was born, and a double portion has been allotted to me. I have hitherto found in my integrity, an impenetrable shield, and I trust it will continue to preserve me.

I pity the towns which under the guidance of rash or designing men, assembled without the necessary information, and passed resolutions, which have exposed them to censure.

I receive and return with pleasure your congratulations on the present appearances of national union, and thank you for your assurances of support.

JOHN ADAMS.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT *of the*
UNITED STATES *of* AMERICA.

SIR,

WE, the inhabitants of the town of Medford, in the State of Massachusetts, approach you with respect and veneration; not solely because you fill a high and important station, —but because you fill it with uprightness, dignity and honor.

When most of the governments of the old world are agitated to their centres, and by
the

the insidious policy of the agents, those whom we have been accustomed to view as friends, our nation is menaced by a similar calamity :—When to moderate, and equitable demands for redress of wrongs, nothing has been received but a reiteration of insults and an accumulation of injuries ; the crisis seems to demand a public expression of attachment to the constitution and government of our country. We consider it an absurd and ridiculous assumption, that all the various descriptions of mankind should be capacitated to judge of the advantages or disadvantages of treaties—of the propriety of war, or of peace. Happily for the American people, those high attributes of national sovereignty are delegated to such a number, as is best to produce and secure the union of liberty with the good government of laws.

Should our confidence be misplaced, a strong and effectual remedy is provided in the revolution of elections. We therefore disclaim the doctrine of the right “to clog the wheels, of government.”—We would only declare, that the system which under the late and present administration, has been productive of so much national prosperity, as it commands our warmest attachment, so it is entitled to our most energetic support :—That, though the sentiments for peace universally pervades the nation, yet there is a point of degradation to which the just pride
of

of Americans will never suffer them to stoop; and, that sooner than yield our liberties to anarchical despotism, an appeal to the last reason of states, becomes the highest duty of freemen. In fine, we cordially obey the solemn dictates of the present eventful moment, to rally round the constitution and government of our country. and on the altar of freedom, once more swear to preserve and defend them—once more pledge thereto—"our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."



*To the INHABITANTS of MEDFORD, in the
State of MASSACHUSETTS.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address—expressive as it is concise—which has been presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Sewall.

The advantages and disadvantages of treaties, and the propriety of war or peace, depend commonly upon a system of information so complicated, that it requires all the time of the people to possess themselves of it; and frequently much of it is of a nature which cannot be laid open to public view. It seems therefore inevitable, that those high attributes of national sovereignty, should be delegated to such a number as is
best

best calculated to produce and secure the union of liberty with the government of laws.

Your declaration, that the system of the late and present administration commands your warmest attachment, and is entitled to your most energetic support, because it has been productive of so much national prosperity, is very consolatory.

The oath you have again taken on the altar of freedom, to preserve your constitution and government, will be regarded by all who know you as solemn and sincere—not like those of eternal enmity to tyranny and anarchy, taken by those moderns, who by their arts and arms, are daily extending and propagating both.

There is indeed a point of degradation to which the just pride of Americans will never suffer them to stoop. Sooner than yield our liberties to anarchical despotism, an appeal to the last reason of republics, becomes the highest duty of freemen.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

A NUMBER of the inhabitants of Dedham, and other towns in the vicinity, in the county of Norfolk, in Massachusetts, assembled

bled at Dedham, to commemorate the 4th of July, '76; having been led by the occasion to consider the insults, perfidy, and hostile aggressions of France against the United States, presume to address you their sentiments on the present aspect of public affairs.

Many, too many, considered independence, when it was recognized by the peace of '83, as a condition of perpetual national repose. By repressing our own ambition, and pursuing a just and pacific policy, so obviously the wisest for the United States, and which we acknowledge its government has most faithfully pursued, they supposed one half the causes, that engender wars, would be removed; and, as a security against the contingency of the other half, they relied on the interest of foreign nations to court our friendship, as well as on the slenderness of their motives to provoke our hostility.

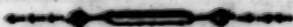
These hopes, and half the foundation for them, were fallacious; and most of all have they proved false in our blind dependence on the faith and justice, the friendship and gratitude of France.

From political misinformation, which, we regret to say, has been peculiarly active in the scene we inhabit, too many have believed, that France, though crushed under the iron rigor of a military despotism, enjoyed liberty;

liberty ; that the inordinate thirst of her rulers for dominion, was inspired by a generous zeal to set oppressed nations free ; that these nations were emancipated by being subdued ; and, though they lost their independence, they were gainers by some unknown equivalent, gratuitously conferred by their conquerors. If, besides the absurdity of these opinions, you should discern in them something like infatuation and debasement, you will ascribe it, Sir, to its proper cause. The government of France and its emissaries, while they despised and outraged the ever venerable *principles* of liberty, practised amongst us a successful imposture with the *name*. But, by the publication of the diplomatic correspondence with France, the period of infatuation has, we trust, passed over—not indeed without some temporary discredit to the sobriety and steadiness of the American character ; but we hope with much solid and lasting instruction to our nation. We think it candid, however, to declare our belief, and events have confirmed it, that many, in the midst of their delusion for France, preserved a superior affection for their own country. We have indeed generally thought too well of France, and France too meanly of us—too meanly of our spirit and union. But she will learn that we will bear no foreign yoke—we will pay no tribute. And we beg leave to assure you,

you, Sir, that we perceive the fruitlessness, we might say the fatal rashness, as well as meanness of trusting any further to delaying counsels, and delusive negotiations. We see also, and we lament, that our nation has seen so late, that the safe keeping of American independence is, like that of every other free state, in the energy of its spirit and resources; nor will we disgrace ourselves by hesitating a moment between war and submission to the exactions of France. Yet such is the alternative plainly before us.

If our fathers had not felt sentiments like these, they would not have gained independence, and if we did not feel them, it would not reach posterity.



*To the INHABITANTS of DEDHAM, and
other Towns in its vicinity, in the County
of NORFOLK, in MASSACHUSETTS.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for a friendly address, presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Otis.

No faithful and intelligent American could pass the 4th of July, this year, without strong sensations and deep reflections, excited by the perfidy, insolence, and hostilities of France. The ideas of never ending repose in America, were as visionary as the projects

projects of universal and perpetual peace, which some ingenious and benevolent writers have amused themselves in composing.

We have too much intercourse with ambitious enterprizing and warlike nations; and our commerce is of too much importance in their conflicts, to leave us a hope of remaining always neutral. Although our government has exhausted all the resources of its policy in endeavours to avoid engaging in the present uproar, neither the faith, justice or gratitude of France would suffer it to succeed.

I know very well that political misinformation has been peculiarly active in the scene which you and I inhabit, and that too many have believed that France, though crushed under the iron hand of a military despotism, enjoyed liberty; that the inordinate ambition of her rulers for dominion was infused by a generous zeal to set oppressed nations free; that these nations were emancipated by being subdued, and though they lost their independence, they were gainers by some unknown equivalent gratuitously conferred by their conquerors.

If impostures so gross, have had too much success, America is of all the people of the world the most excusable, for many particular reasons, for their credulity. The people of a great portion of Europe have been
more

more fatally deceived ; even the people of England, with all their national antipathies, and under all the energies of their government, have been equally misinformed, and appear to be now more affected with remorse. The sobriety and steadiness of the American character, will not suffer more discredit than other nations, and we have certainly apologies to make peculiar to ourselves.

That all Americans by birth, except perhaps a very few abandoned characters, have always preserved a superior affection for their own country, I am very confident ; that we have thought too well of France, and France too meanly of us, I have been an eye and ear witness for twenty years. These errors on both sides must be corrected—she will soon learn that we will bear no yoke, that we will pay no tribute.

For delaying counsels, the constitution has not made me responsible ; but while I am entrusted with my present powers, and bound by my present obligations, you shall see no more delusive negotiations. The safe keeping of American independence is in the energy of its spirit and resources. In my opinion, as well as yours, there is no alternative between war and submission to the Executive of France. If your fathers had not felt sentiments like these, they would have

have been "hewers of wood" to one foreign nation ; and if you did not feel them, your posterity would be "drawers of water" to another.

JOHN ADAMS.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AS inhabitants of this ancient town which gave you birth, although now by its division, Quincy is honored as the place of your residence, we retain that affection and esteem for your personal honor and happiness, which are the natural result of such a connection ; yet this is a circumstance of very small consideration, compared with other reasons of attachment and veneration, which upon this trying crisis of political emergency, we beg leave to offer in the following address.

Your promotion, Sir, by the merited suffrages of a free people, to the chief seat of government is a circumstance of pre-eminence and honor to which despotic and hereditary princes, can never attain. Being thus made by your country, the centre of their national dignity, confidence and affection, we glory in your great and acknowledged abilities as a statesman, and in your unabated

unabated zeal, unshaken fortitude and perseverance as a patriot ; all which qualities have long since been rendered conspicuous to your fellow citizens, and to the world, in your political and eminent services.

We condemn, Sir, as we know you do, the fawning parasite ; the flattering sycophant, as a reproach to merited honor ; a vermin, that mars the tree most to which its attachments are apparently the greatest. We should not therefore presume thus freely to express the just sensibilities of our hearts, in language that would bear the remotest resemblance to that praise, so often unjustly lavished upon tyrants, to answer ends as base as their encomiums are false, were it not to contradict the envenomed pens and tongues of reproach and slander, which with uncontrouled licence, have been attempting to tarnish the character, with the honor, probity, and firmness of which are intimately connected the political glory, safety and happiness of these united, sovereign and independent States.

Were you the man, Sir, intriguing for British influence, and to yield up the independent glory of United America, to the nation from whose unconstitutional exactions you had the honor of being eminently instrumental in procuring our deliverance ; or were you secretly exerting your abilities

to prevent a compromise with France, for an amicable settlement of all real, or imaginary injuries of which they complain, as has been so often, so confidently, and we fear much worse than ignorantly announced to the public, and which many, too many, have been betrayed to believe, we should now with unsufferable regret, have to lament in our first magistrate, an instance of apostacy, unequalled in the page of civil history. You will then, Sir, pardon our enthusiasm, while in your letter of credence to the French Directory, and the liberal, pacific instructions to our envoys, we see the disorganizing designs of the secret enemies of our unrivalled prosperity, as in a moment defeated; and in spite of malignity itself, the honor of our Executive and government at large established by evidence that enforces conviction.

The joyous effects are every where visible! At the return of harmony in Congress, the heart of every true friend to America exults; the people, who in great numbers before, alarmingly separated in affection and confidence from their own government, and rendered jealous of the first characters of their own election, convinced of the snares spread for their country by foreign intrigue, are now crowding to its standard, and consecrating their fortunes and lives for its defence. So signal a providence for the

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detection

detection of fraud, and the coalition of a people divided and consequently sinking into inevitable destruction, is perhaps a novelty in the annals of nations.

While solemnly grateful to the all-discerning eye of Divine Benevolence, which has brought to light those hidden things of darkness, by which so many of us have been so unhappily deceived, we congratulate our country at large, that numerous private friendships which were violated, and otherwise good neighbours and important connexions, estranged from one another, are now returning with mutual extacy, to the fraternal embrace. The uninformed and unreasonably impassioned only stand at a forbidding distance.

Disgusted at the illiberal arts and avarice of those with whom our envoys are admitted to converse, and at the refusal of audience by the French Directory, after so friendly an advance, accompanied too with every mark of respectful attention to so great a people, a revolt from our over heated affection for such a government, cannot fail of being the consequence. Sincere and ardent were our attachments to the interests of the French nation, while they stood on their own defence, and preserved a spirit limited by the decisions of reason; but when universal empire seems to be adopted as their object,

object, and the darkness of intrigue as a favorite measure to accomplish their nefarious designs; when the price of friendship with America is the prostitution of her wealth, her honor, her independence—it must be our duty to reprobate her pride, and spurn her insulting demands. Nor can the genuine sons of America, although friendly to France, and with their illustrious Executive, desirous of forming an alliance upon foundations mutually just and beneficial, forbear pledging themselves for the defence of their invaluable rights against the unprovoked invasion with which we are threatened.

Acquiescing, Sir, most cordially in your public administration; wishing you the guidance of heaven in every duty of your important and most difficult station; and that the pen of slander, however artfully aimed, may never penetrate to disturb your inward peace and tranquillity, or discourage your exertions, still so needful for the prosperity of your country, we beg leave to subscribe ourselves your confirmed friends, &c.

To the INHABITANTS of the Town of BRAINTREE, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

THIS kind address, from the inhabitants of a division of the ancient and venerable

able town of Braintree, which has always been my home, is very obliging to me.

The tongues and pens of slander, instruments with which our enemies expect to subdue our country, I flatter myself have never made impressions on you, my ancient townsmen, to whom I have been so familiarly known from my infancy. A signal interposition of providence, has for once detected frauds and calumnies, which, from the inexecution of the laws, and the indifference of the people, were too long permitted to prevail.

I am happy to see that your minds are deeply impressed with the danger of the present situation of our country, and that your resolutions, to assert and defend your rights, are as judicious and determined, as I have always known them to be upon former occasions.

I wish you every prosperity and felicity, which you can wisely wish for yourselves.

JOHN ADAMS.



From the Town of QUINCY, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

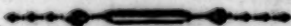
SIR,

WE the subscribers, inhabitants of your native town, being many of us the contemporaries

aries of your youth, cannot help looking back with pleasure and gratitude on your early exertions in favor of our liberty and independence. When the unreasonable demands of that country from whence we derived our origin, made it necessary for us by fair reason and argument to defend our rights as freemen, your early publications, almost from the time of your leaving the university, caused the enemies of our independency, at that time, to watch you with a malignant yet fearful eye ; and presaged to them the greatness of your future abilities. We are happy in having lived to see the exertion of them succeeded in negotiations of the most important and difficult nature, with respect to gaining our national independence ; and in promoting that excellent form of government, under which we have voluntarily agreed to live..

But now, Sir, we are called to meet a different state of things. A nation, with whom we had been taught to expect the most friendly intercourse, is making violent depredations on our property, and refuses to hear our complaints. Stung with such conduct from a nation we had been wont to love, and disgusted at their haughty treatment of our ambassadors and our country, we feel the necessity of union among ourselves, and that our unanimity should be known : We therefore beg leave, Sir, in this public man-

ner, to assure you, that we entirely approve of the prudent, just and pacific measures that have been employed by the Supreme Executive, in behalf of the United States, for accommodating all differences between them and France; and that if nothing short of giving up our liberty, sovereignty and independence will satisfy their lust of power, we will freely sacrifice our fortunes and our lives in defence of our freedom.



To the INHABITANTS of the Town of QUINCY, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

NEXT to the approbation of a good conscience, there is nothing perhaps which gives us more pleasure than the praise of those we love most, and who know us the most intimately.

I could not receive your address—in which I read with pleasure inexpressible, the names of clergy and laity, officers and soldiers, magistrates and citizens of every denomination; among whom were the most aged, whose countenances I had respected; my school-fellows and the companions of my childhood, whom I had loved from the cradle;—without the liveliest emotions of gratitude and affection.

With you, my kind neighbours, I have ever lived in habits of freedom, friendship
and

and familiarity; we have always agreed very well in principles and opinions; and well knowing your love of your country and ardor in its defence, your explicit declaration upon this occasion, though unexpected, is no surprize to me. Accept of the best wishes of a sincere and faithful friend, for a continuance of harmony among you, and for the prosperity of all your interests.

JOHN ADAMS.

*To the PRESIDENT, and to the CONGRESS of
the UNITED STATES.*

WE the subscribers, inhabitants of Brookline, partaking of that anxious concern for the public welfare, which at this crisis is felt by all good citizens, beg leave to express our highest approbation of those honest and unwearied endeavours, which, under every discouragement, have been used by the Executive, to preserve our national peace. But while we witness with pleasure, that every thing just and honorable, which a sincere desire of conciliation could suggest, is offered by the United States, we see with extreme indignation, that France will harken to nothing but enormous contributions of money; and these contributions we are expressly told, are not the price of peace, but merely

of negotiation. A compliance with these terms so arbitrary and unjust in themselves, and so degrading to an independent people, we conceive would soon be followed by fresh insults and exactions, until by degrees we should be reduced to a state of unconditional subjection: That such is the design as well as tendency of these demands, cannot be doubted, since they are enforced by threats of our national destruction; and the fate of Venice, plundered, divided and sold, after it was declared free, is held up to terrify us into submission—the deplorable situation of some, and danger of the other European republics is also drawn in just but false colours with the same design—republics whose governments are subverted, whose treasuries are drained, and their credit exhausted, whose cities are overawed and their fields ravaged by a ferocious soldiery, and whose people uniformly plundered, impoverished and oppressed, are not allowed even the melancholy privilege of complaining. Such is the wretched fate with which we are threatened with, unless we comply with the demands of the Directory—demands which though arbitrary and unreasonable in the highest degree, are yet but the preliminaries of negotiation, and not the conditions of peace.

Instructed, but not terrified, by these awful scenes of the Revolutionary drama, we
trust

trust that the American people, having all one interest in the safety of their common country, will with us have but one sentiment concerning its defence. We are sensible that domestic divisions have facilitated the ruin of the republics of Europe, and their destroyers plainly tell us, that the same divisions exist here, and will enable them to effect a similar ruin in the United States :—But so far as depends upon us, we will disappoint this expectation, by proving to France and to the world, that we are inseparably united, and are determined to preserve our liberty and laws sacred and inviolate, against every enemy.

As sincere lovers of our country therefore, and faithful supporters of those authorities which are entrusted with its welfare, we declare that we fully confide in their talents, experience and patriotism, to provide for every exigency, and that we will at every hazard support the measures which they shall ordain.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT, *the* SENATE, and HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

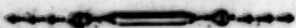
AT a period which so seriously arrests the attention of every American, and true friend to his country, as the present, the inhabitants
of

of Lynn, in the State of Massachusetts, feeling it be their duty, and impressed with the just, wise and prudent administration of the Executive, and the rulers in general of the American republic, ardently embrace an opportunity to announce their determined resolution to support their constitution and government, with all they hold most sacred and dear. Convinced as we are, that the President has, by fair, unequivocal and full instructions, which he has given to our envoys, to adjust and amicably accommodate all existing difficulties between the United States and the French republic, done all, consistent with the honor, dignity and freedom of his country, to preserve peace and good understanding with that nation. Notwithstanding our envoys are commissioned with full power to settle all animosities with the French agents, upon the broadest basis of equity, they are treated with neglect—refused an audience, lest their reasonings should show to the world the integrity of our government, and disclose their iniquity.

Legislators, Guardians ! The most nefarious designs have been plotted to subvert our government, subjugate the country and lay us under contribution ; but thanks be to the Sovereign of the universe, that we do not experience the fate of Venice, nor groan under the oppression of subdued nations. We are a free people, have a sense of the blessings

blessings which we enjoy under that liberty and independence, which we have wrested from the hand of one king, and will not supinely submit to any nation.

We wish not again to behold our fields crimsoned with human blood, and fervently pray God to avert the calamities of war: Nevertheless, should our magistrates, in whom we place entire confidence, find it expedient to take energetic measures to defend our liberties, we will readily co-operate with them in every such measure:—Nor do we hesitate at this interesting crisis, to echo the declaration of our illustrious chief, that “we are not humiliated under a colonial sense of fear; we are not a divided people.” Our arms are strong in defence of our rights, and we are determined to repel our foe.



*To the INHABITANTS of LYNN, in the State
of MASSACHUSETTS.*

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address to the President, Senate, and House of Representatives, adopted at a legal town-meeting, has been presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Sewall.

When the inhabitants of one of our towns assembled in legal form, solemnly declare themselves impressed with the wise, just and prudent

prudent administration of their rulers in general ; and that they will support their constitution and government, with all they hold most sacred and dear, no man who knows them, will question their sincerity.

The conviction you avow that the President has done all, consistent with the honor, dignity and freedom of his country, to preserve peace and good understanding with the French, is a gratification to me which I receive with esteem.

As the treatment of our envoys is without a possibility of justification, excuse or apology, I leave it to your just resentment. Your acknowledgment of the blessings you enjoy, under your liberty, and independence, and determination never supinely to surrender them, prove you to deserve them.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE the Congregational Ministers of your native State, met in annual convention, feel ourselves called upon as men, as American citizens, and as public professors and teachers of Christianity, to address you at this solemn and eventful crisis.

While the benevolent spirit of our religion and office prompts our fervent wishes and
prayers

prayers for the universal extension of rational liberty, social order, and christian piety, we cannot but deeply lament, and firmly resist those atheistical, licentious and disorganizing principles, which have been avowed and zealously propagated by the philosophers and politicians of France; which have produced the greatest crimes and miseries in that unhappy country, and like a mortal pestilence, are diffusing their baneful influence even to distant nations. From these principles, combined with boundless avarice and ambition, have originated not only schemes of universal plunder and domination, but insidious attempts to divide the American people from their rulers, and involve them in a needless, unjust and ruinous war; arbitrary and cruel depredations on their unoffending commerce; contemptuous treatment of their repeated messengers and generous overtures of peace; rapacious demands and insulting threats in answer to the most fair and condescending proposals.

In this connexion, we offer to you, sir, our tribute of affectionate esteem and gratitude, and to Almighty God, our devout praise, for the wise, temperate and benevolent policy, which has marked your conduct towards the offending power, and which has given a new and splendid example of the beauty and dignity of the Christian spirit, contrasted with the base and profligate spirit

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of infidelity. We also bless God for your firm, patriotic and important services to our country, from the dawn of its glorious revolution, and for the conspicuous integrity and wisdom which have been constantly displayed both by you, Sir, and your excellent and beloved predecessor. •

As ministers of the Prince of Peace, we feel it to be our duty both to inculcate and exemplify the pacific spirit which adorns his character and doctrine. We remember his command to forgive and love our most injurious enemies. But neither the law of Christianity nor of reason requires us to prostrate our national independence, freedom, property and honor at the feet of proud insatiable oppressors ; especially of a government, which has renounced the gospel and its sacred institutions, and has transferred to imaginary or heathen idols, the homage due to the Creator and Redeemer of the world. Such a prostration would be treason against that Being who gave us our inestimable privileges civil and religious, as a sacred deposit to be defended and transmitted to posterity. It would be criminal unfaithfulness and treachery to our country, our children, and the whole human race.

The fate of Venice, and other countries subdued by France, though held up to intimidate us to degrading submission, shall teach

teach us a far different lesson ; it shall instruct us to shun that insidious embrace, which aims not only to reduce us to the condition of tributaries, but to strip us of the gospel, the Christian Sabbath and every pious institution. These privileges we consider as the chief glory of our country ; the main pillars of its civil order, liberty and happiness ; as on the other hand we view its excellent political institutions, as, under God, the guardians of our religious and ecclesiastical privileges. This intimate connexion between our civil and Christian blessings, is alone sufficient to justify the decided part which the clergy of America have uniformly taken in supporting the constituted authorities and political interests of their country. While we forgive the censure which our order has received from some persons on this account, we will still, by our prayers and examples, by our public and private discourses, continue the same tenor of conduct which has incurred this malevolent or misguided abuse.

Amidst the fashionable scepticism and impiety of the age, it is matter of consolation and gratitude that we have a President, who, both in word and action, avows his reverence of the Christian religion, his belief in a Redeemer and Sanctifier of the world, and his devout trust in the providence of God.

May

May that Being whose important favors you recently led us to implore, graciously answer our united prayers in behalf of our common country. May he preserve your valuable life and health, your vigor, firmness and integrity of mind, and your consequent public usefulness ; and at length transfer you, full of days and honor, to the possession of an eminent and everlasting reward.

To the CONVENTION of CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS in the State of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

THIS respectful and affectionate address, from the convention of the clergy of Massachusetts, not less distinguished for science and learning, candor, moderation, liberality of sentiment and conduct, and for the most amiable urbanity of manners, than for unblemished morals and Christian piety, does me great honor, and must have the most beneficial effects upon the public mind, at this solemn and eventful crisis.

To do justice to its sentiments and language, I could only repeat it sentence by sentence, and word for word ; I shall therefore confine myself to a mere return of my unfeigned thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

From the GRAND LODGE of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS of the Commonwealth of MASSACHUSETTS, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

FLATTERY, and a discussion of political opinions, are inconsistent with the principles of this ancient fraternity; but while we are bound to cultivate benevolence, and extend the arm of charity to our brethren of every clime, we feel the strongest obligations to support the civil authority which protect us. And when the illiberal attacks of a foreign enthusiast, aided by the unfounded prejudices of his followers, are tending to embarrass the public mind with respect to the real views of our society, we think it our duty to join in full concert with our fellow-citizens, in expressions of gratitude to the Supreme Architect of the Universe, for endowing you with that wisdom, patriotic firmness and integrity, which has characterized your public conduct.

While the independence of our country, and the operation of just and equal laws, have contributed to enlarge the sphere of social happiness, we rejoice that our Masonic brethren, throughout the United States, have discovered by their conduct, a zeal to promote the public welfare, and that many of them have been conspicuous for their

talents and unwearied exertions. Among these, your venerable predecessor is the most illustrious example ; and the memory of our beloved Warren, who from the chair of this Grand Lodge, has often urged the members, to the exercise of patriotism and philanthropy, and who sealed his principles with his blood, shall ever animate us to a laudable imitation of his virtues.

Sincerely we deprecate the calamities of war, and have fervently wished success to every endeavor for the preservation of peace : But, Sir, if we disregard the blessings of liberty, we are unworthy to enjoy them. In vain have our statesman laboured, in their public assemblies, and by their midnight taper ; in vain have our mountains and vallies been stained with the blood of our heroes, if we want firmness to repel the assaults of every presumptuous invader. And while as citizens of a free republic, we engage our utmost exertions in the cause of our country, and offer our services to protect the fair inheritance of our ancestors ; as Masons we will cultivate the precepts of our institution, and alleviate the miseries of all who by the fortune of war, or the ordinary occurrences of life, are the proper objects of our attention.

Long may you continue a patron of the useful arts, and an ornament of the present generation.

generation. May you finish your public labors with an approving conscience, and be gathered to the sepulchre of your co-patriots with the benediction of your countrymen ; and finally, may you be admitted to that celestial temple, where all national distinctions are lost in undissembled friendship and universal piece.



To the GRAND LODGE of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS of MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN,

AS I never had the honor to be one of your ancient fraternity, I feel myself under the greater obligations to you for this respectful and affectionate address. Many of my best friends have been Masons, and two of them, my professional patron, the learned Gridley, and my intimate friend, your immortal Warren, whose life and death, were lessons and examples of patriotism and philanthropy, were Grand Masters ; yet so it has happened, that, I never had the felicity to be initiated. Such examples as these, and a greater still in my venerable predecessor, would have been sufficient to induce me to hold the institution and fraternity, in esteem and honor, as favorable to the support of civil authority, if I had not known their love of the fine arts, their delight in hospitality, and devotion to humanity.

Your

Your indulgent opinion of my conduct, and your benevolent wishes, for the fortunate termination of my public labors, have my sincere thanks.

The public engagement of your utmost exertions in the cause of your country, and the offer of your services to protect the fair inheritance of your ancestors, are proofs that you are not chargeable with those designs, the imputation of which, in other parts of the world, has embarrassed the public mind, with respect to the real views of your society.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the BOSTON MARINE SOCIETY, to the
PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

AT a time, when the existence of our independence is struck at; the sovereign rights of our country violated, by the refusal to receive our ambassadors, specially commissioned as the ministers of explanation and concord; and this haughty and hostile aspect, accompanied with the most indiscriminate spoliations on our commerce, grounded on the false, contemptuous opinion, that we are a mercenary, defenceless and divided people; it surely becomes the duty of every citizen, and incorporated bodies in particular,

lar, publickly to exprefs sentiments, which may convince the world, as well as the French nation, that they indignantly feel, dare resent, and hope to avenge the injured and insulted character of our common country.

Although it is not for nations to command, they certainly may deserve success. The arms of our country have too recently with effect resisted the claims of the first maritime power the earth ever knew, for her sons to now meanly crouch to the insatiable cupidity and distant domination of an insolent and inferior foe.

When friendship becomes insult, or is permitted only on exclusive terms, dictated and imposed by a corrupted, and corrupting government, it is time to shake off such a debasing yoke. Better at once to commence generous enemies, than maintain a deceptive and precarious connexion with such insidious friends.

Had the French people confined their efforts to the annihilation of their monarchy and all its collateral props, and to the erection of any other system of rule, the business and its local consequences ought to have been left to themselves : But when we find this nation, after having completely attained the professed object of their warfare, with savage hostility, in many instances, and in others,

others, artfully aiming at the utter subversion of the political, religious and social institutions of all other governments, which time, experience, and even freedom, have sanctioned, they become the enemies of all mankind; and ought to be opposed by every country that has any pretensions to principle, spirit, or patriotism.

These, Sir, are our sentiments, and we trust they actuate, and glow, in the breasts, and if necessary, will nerve the arm, of the great mass of the free and enlightened citizens that compose the American nation; and who must rejoice that their beloved Washington has been succeeded by a man who treads with equal step the honest, plain and strait road, so strictly followed by that wise and able statesman.

Extensive as the commerce of the United States has become under a popular government, wisely administered, and distant as our shores lie from the European continent, wooden walls, are confessedly, our best defence. You, Sir, appear early, and justly to have appreciated this system of protection. Many of this society have been engaged in maritime warfare; and when their country again calls, they trust, that under your pilotage, they shall not be found wanting.

A life like yours, so long successfully employed in public energy, and patriotic effort,
has

has now become an important object of preservation. May Heaven preserve it with invigorated health ; and a kind Providence enable you to augment your well founded claims to national gratitude, by a faithful, firm discharge of the numerous duties, and momentous services, committed to you by the constitution and councils of our country, and in which Europe, and the world, may eventually be so much interested.

To the BOSTON MARINE SOCIETY.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this respectful address.—The existence of the independence of any nation cannot be more grossly attacked, the sovereign rights of a country cannot be more offensively violated, than by a refusal to receive ambassadors sent as ministers of explanation and concord ;—especially if such refusal is accompanied with public and notorious circumstances of deliberate indignity, insult and contempt. Indiscriminate despoliations on our commerce, grounded on the contemptuous opinion, that we are a divided, defenceless and mercenary people, are not so egregious and aggravated a provocation offered to the face of a whole nation as the former. I rejoice that you indignantly feel ; that you dare resent ; and that
you

you hope to vindicate, the injured and insulted character of our common country. When friendship becomes insult, or is permitted only on terms, dictated and imposed, it becomes an intolerable yoke, and it is time to shake it off.—Better at once to become generous enemies, than maintain a delusive and precarious connexion with such insidious friends. Whatever pretexts the French people, or a French prince of the blood with his train, or a combination of families of the first quality, with officers of the army, had for their efforts, for the annihilation of the monarchy : we certainly, far from being under any obligation, had no right or excuse to interfere for their assistance. If, by the collateral props of the monarchy, you mean the nobility and the clergy, which has followed the annihilation of them : All their revenues have been seized and appropriated by another prop of the old monarchy, the army ;—and the nation is become (as all other nations of Europe are becoming, if French principles and systems prevail) a congregation of soldiers and serfs. The French Revolution has ever been incomprehensible to me ; the substance of all that I can understand of it, is, that one of the pillars of the ancient monarchy, that is the army, has fallen upon the other two, the nobility and the clergy, broken them both down ; the building has fallen of course ;
and

and this pillar is now the whole edifice. The military serpent has swallowed that of Aaron and all the rest.

If the example should be followed through Europe, when the officers of the armies begin to quarrel with one another—five hundred years more of Barons' wars may succeed. If the French, therefore, will become the enemies of all mankind, by forcing all nations to follow their example, in the subversion of all the political, religious and social institutions, which time, experience, and freedom have sanctioned, they ought to be opposed by every country that has any pretensions to principle, spirit, or patriotism.

Floating batteries and wooden walls have been my favorite system of warfare and defence for this country, for three and twenty years. I have had very little success in making proselytes. At the present moment, however, Americans in general, cultivators as well as merchants and mariners, begin to look to that source of security and protection; and your assistance will have great influence and effect, in extending the opinion in theory, and in introducing and establishing the practice.

Your kind wishes for my life and health, demand my most respectful and affectionate gratitude; and the return of my sincere prayers for the health and happiness of the

Marine Society at Boston, as well as for the security and prosperity of the military and commercial marine of the United States, in which yours is included.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the STUDENTS of WILLIAMS' COLLEGE, to His Excellency JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THOUGH members of an infant institution, and of little comparative weight in the political scale of the union, we feel for the interest of our country.

It becomes every youth in whose breast dwells the least principle of honor, to come forward calmly and boldly to defend his country.

When we behold France, a great and powerful nation, exerting all her energy to undermine the vast fabrics of religion and government; when we behold her inculcating the disbelief of a Deity, of future rewards and punishments; when we behold her discarding every moral principle, and dissolving every tie which connects men together in society, which sweetens life and renders it worth enjoying; when we behold her brutalizing man, that she may govern him;

as friends to humanity, as sharers in the happiness of our fellow men, as citizens of the world, our feelings are deeply affected.

We commiserate the sufferings of our European brethren; we weep over the awful calamities of anarchy and atheism.

But when we behold this aspiring nation, not contented with her vast European dominions, but endeavouring to stretch her colossian empire across the Atlantic, every passion is roused; and our souls are fired with indignation. We see that her object is universal domination, we see that nothing less than the universal degradation of man will satisfy these merciless destroyers. But be assured, Sir, should the situation of our country require it, we are ready to oppose her with all our youthful energy, and risk our lives in defence of our national rights.

Untaught in the school of adulation or the court of sycophants, we speak forth the pure sentiments of independence, we give you our warmest approbation. We behold with patriotic pride, the dignified conduct of our chief magistrate, at this alarming crisis: We are highly pleased with that candor, firmness and moderation which have uniformly characterized his administration. Though measures decisive and energetic meet with censure from the unprincipled, the disaffected and the factions, yet virtue must eternally triumph.

triumph. It is this alone which can stand the test of calumny; and you have this consolation, that the disapprobation of the wicked is solid praise.

At this eventful period, our eyes are fixed upon you, Sir, as our political father; and under the protection of a wise Providence, we rely on your wisdom and patriotism, with the co-operation of our national council, to perpetuate our prosperity: and we solemnly engage, that while our government is thus purely and virtuously administered, we will give it our whole support.

These, Sir, are the unanimous sentiments of the members of Williams College, who, though convinced of the evils of war, yet despise the ease and affluence of peace, when put in competition with national freedom and sovereignty.

Accept, Sir, our warmest solicitude for your personal welfare.

*To the STUDENTS of WILLIAMS COLLEGE,
State of MASSACHUSETTS.*

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE not been less surprized than delighted with an address from one hundred and thirty students of Williams College, presented to me by the President pro tempore of the Senate, Mr. Sedgwick.

So

So large a number in so recent an institution, as it shews the flourishing circumstances of our country at present, affords a most pleasing prospect of young citizens in a course of education, for the future government, instruction and service of the country.

The composition of your address, shews a respectable sample of your literary talents, as the principles and sentiments it contains do honor to your heads and hearts. It is impossible for the unpervented mind of youth to see the world filled with violence, as it was before the flood, and every virtue and every principle trampled under foot, without feeling their souls fired with a generous indignation. Your readiness to oppose the torrent with all your youthful energy, and risk your lives in defence of your national rights, is greatly to your honor.

The testimony of your opinion in favor of the candor, firmness and moderation of my administration, is the more valuable, as you have not been educated in the school of adulation, and speak the pure sentiments of independence.

When your eyes are fixed upon me, as your political father, you at once excite the affections of my heart, and make me feel my own insufficiency for the arduous duties of that important character. With the co-operation of the national councils and the virtues

tues of our citizens, I despair not of the continuance of our national prosperity—the talents and energies of the rising generation are a sure pledge of our safety, and the growing importance of America.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the STUDENTS of HARVARD UNIVERSITY, to His Excellency JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE flatter ourselves you will not be displeased at hearing that the walls of your native seminary are now inhabited by youth possessing sentiments congenial with your own. We do not pretend to great political sagacity; we wish only to convince mankind that we inherit the intrepid spirit of our ancestors, and disdain submission to the will of a rapacious, lawless and imperious nation. Though removed from active life, we have watched with anxiety the interest of our country: We have seen a nation in Europe, grasping at universal conquest, trampling on the laws of God and nations, systematizing rapine and plunder, destroying foreign governments by the strength of her arms, or the pestilence of her embraces, and scattering principles which subvert social order, raise the storms of domestic faction, and perpetuate

uate the horrors of revolution : We have seen this same nation violating our neutral rights, spurning our pacific proposals, her piratical citizens sweeping our ships from the seas, and venal presses under her control, pouring out torrents of abuse on men, who have grown grey in our service : We have seen her ministers in this country insulting our government by a daring, unprecedented and contemptuous appeal to the people, and her agents at home offering conditions, which slaves, whose necks have grown to the yoke, would reject with indignation. We have seen this, Sir, and our youthful blood has boiled within us. When, in opposition to such conduct, we contemplate the measures of our own government, we cannot but admire and venerate the unfurnished integrity, the decisive prudence, and dignified firmness, which have uniformly characterized your administration. Impressed with these sentiments, we now solemnly offer the unwasted ardor and unimpaired energies of our youth to the service of our country. Our lives are our only property ; and we were not the sons of those who sealed our liberties with their blood, if we would not defend with these lives that soil, which now affords a peaceful grave to the mouldering bones of our forefathers.

To

To the STUDENTS of HARVARD UNIVERSITY, in MASSACHUSETTS.

GENTLEMEN.

THE companions, studies and amusements of my youth, under the auspices of our *alma mater*, whom I shall ever hold in the highest veneration and affection, came fresh to my remembrance on receiving your address.

The maxims of life, and the elements of literature, which have ever been inculcated, in that ancient seat of education, could produce no other sentiments, in a juncture like this, than such as you have condensed into a form so concise, with so much accuracy, perspicuity and beauty.

Removed from the scenes of intemperate pleasures, occupied with books, which impress the purest principles, and directed by governors, tutors and professors, famous for science, as well as eminent in wisdom, the studious youth of this country, in all our universities, could not fail to be animated, with the intrepid spirit of their ancestors: Very few examples of degenerate characters, are ever seen issuing from any of those seminaries. It is impossible, that young gentlemen of your habits, can look forward with pleasure to a long career of life, in a degraded country, in society with disgraced associates.

ates.—Your first care should be, to preserve the stage from reproach, and your companions in the drama, from dishonor.

But if it were possible to suppose you indifferent to shame, what security can you have, for the property you may acquire, or for the life of vegetation you must lead? What is to be the situation of the future divine, lawgiver, or physician? the merchant, or navigator? the cultivator, or proprietor?

Your youthful blood has boiled, and it ought to boil. You need not, however, be discouraged. If your cause should require defence in arms, your country will have armies and navies, in which you may secure your own honor, and advance the power, prosperity and glory of your contemporaries and posterity.

JOHN ADAMS.

DISTRICT OF MAINE.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

ALTHOUGH we are sensible that the best reward for your great and distinguished services, is the consciousness that they have been performed from pure and honorable motives, we hold it to be the duty of all

all citizens, at this important crisis of our public affairs, to offer you their most sincere and unequivocal assurances of attachment and support.

In the ready and cheerful discharge of this duty, the subscribers, citizens of the town of Portland, in the District of Maine, beg leave to assure you that they entertain, not only the highest veneration for your character and person, but have a firm persuasion, that all the measures of your administration, and more particularly those which concern our foreign relations, have been the result of eminent wisdom and unshaken patriotism.

As a part of the American people, educated to the love and enjoyment of liberty, and in the habits of veneration for republican virtues, we have no language to express our indignation at the late measures of the French republic, originating in the most infamous and corrupt stratagems to annihilate our national sovereignty. While every principle of duty and interest prompts us to unite in the preservation and defence of our excellent constitution, and in the support of those by whom it has been faithfully administered, we cannot but express our deep regret that the citizens of France do not seem to possess virtue sufficient to merit the blessings of a free government.

However

However wicked and hostile may be their designs upon us, our confidence, under the favor of Heaven, is in the fortitude and unanimity of our countrymen, to repress their pernicious effects; at the same time, that a nation, under the rod of despotism, and whose councils are distracted and corrupted, ought not to be feared.

For your firm and dignified resistance against the aggressions of our European enemies, we render you our warmest gratitude, and beg leave to repeat our assurances, that such measures as shall be devised by you and the Congress of the United States, for the preservation of our national honor and rights, shall meet our most decided and zealous support.

*To the PRESIDENT and CONGRESS of the
UNITED STATES of AMERICA.*

AT a time when the agents of a foreign nation boast of their intriguing talents, and of having a party in this country devoted to their interest, with whose aid they pretend they can impose on the people of the United States, and by their deceptive arts prevent them from uniting in opposition to the unreasonable and unjust demands of France; and at a time when so many attempts have been made, to defame the administration of
our

our own government—The inhabitants of the town of Wells, have thought it expedient to address you—and accordingly at their meeting held on the seventeenth of May, unanimously directed a committee chosen from among them, respectfully to declare to you, and through you to the world, their firm and unshaken attachment to their country, its constitution, its laws, and constituted authorities—to declare to you their entire approbation of the measures from time to time, adopted by the supreme Executive of the nation, in respect to our foreign relations, and in particular towards the French republic—To declare to you their just indignation against those enemies of our country, whether foreign or domestic, who have been busy in sowing the seeds of discord, and propagating an opinion, that we are a people divided from our government, and opposed to its measures—And at the same time to assure you, that although they deprecate the calamities of a war, yet reposing the highest confidence in your patriotism, wisdom and firmness, they will most cheerfully afford every support in their power, for carrying into complete effect all such measures as you shall deem necessary in defence of the country, and for securing that freedom and independence which are equally dear to the American people and their government.

To

To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT this important crisis of our national affairs, we the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Arundell, in the District of Maine, have conceived it our duty respectfully to express to you, our firm attachment to our federal constitution and government—and to give you the most unequivocal assurance, of our perfect approbation of your administration since you have presided over the interests of our common country; especially in the measures adopted in relation to the French nation. And while we behold, with indignation the vile insidious attempts of those enemies of our peace and happiness, whether in America or France, calculated to divide the people of the United States from their government, by sowing the seeds of discord and sedition amongst us, thereby to accomplish the subjugation of our infant republic; we beg leave to assure you, that placing the fullest confidence in your wisdom, firmness and integrity, and in the patriotism of every department of our government, we will cheerfully afford every support in our power to effectuate such measures as you and they shall deem expedient to adopt for the defence and protection of our country, its freedom and independence.

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P A T R I O T I C
R H O D E - I S L A N D .



To the PRÉSIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE General Assembly of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, beg leave to express their cordial approbation of your wise and pacific measures, in the attempt to negotiate with the republic of France. They observe, with singular satisfaction, that you appear to have been actuated by a sincere desire to do justice to that republic, if in any thing she had been injured ; to obtain justice for the multiplied injuries which her citizens had committed against us ; and, above all, to preserve peace. We indulged a hope, that your overtures for reconciliation, dictated by a spirit of impartiality, and a love of justice, would have been heard with candor, and treated with respect. It is therefore with regret and astonishment we learn, that these unequivocal proofs of friendship have been disregarded ; that our envoys have not been accredited, and that the most liberal advances to negotiation have been rejected. You have pursued peace with a solicitude corresponding with the importance of the object ; and if it cannot be preserved, the failure ought not to be attributed to any
want

want of liberality or justice in the means you have employed. We are satisfied that you could not have gone further toward the attainment of this object, without committing the honor and dignity of our country.

In the present state of our national affairs, when a foreign power has lost sight of the immutable principles of justice, and of the solemn faith of treaties, and cherishes the unfounded opinion that the people and government of the United States are divided, we consider it our sacred duty to declare to you, and to the world, that the government of our country have merited and obtained our affectionate confidence.

On an occasion so interesting, we feel the most lively pleasure in giving you every assurance of our confidence in your wisdom and integrity, and of our respectful and personal attachment. Relying, under God, upon the unanimity, courage and virtue of our fellow-citizens, we declare our solemn determination to support the constitution and government of the United States.



From the Town of NEWPORT, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

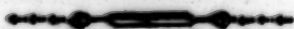
AT this alarming crisis, when a foreign power cherishes the unfounded and dangerous

ous opinion, that the people and the government of the United States are divided, and is thereby encouraged to entertain the most hostile projects against *both* ; we consider it our duty, to declare to you and the world, that our affections are wedded to our constitution and our government, that all the objects of your administration, and the means by which they have been pursued, particularly as they regard the republic of France, challenge our most cordial approbation and grateful applause.

Believing peace to be the true policy of our country, we rejoice to find, by your instructions to our envoys, that you have endeavoured, by every prudent and honorable expedient, to avert the calamities of war, and to preserve undiminished, the public harmony and prosperity ; and we are conscious that you could not have gone further, in the pursuit of this object, without violating the good faith, prostrating the honor, or surrendering the independence of the United States.

On an occasion so interesting, we beg leave to offer you the assurances of our respect ; solemnly pledging ourselves, that, by uniting closely with the government, reposing in it a liberal confidence, acquiescing cheerfully in whatever burdens the public exigencies may require, we will, with zeal,
with

with perseverance, and all the energy of a people determined to be free and independent, resist foreign influence, and repel foreign aggression.



To the INHABITANTS of NEWPORT.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this cordial address. When you declare to the world, that your affections are wedded to your constitution and government; that all the objects of my administration and the means by which they have been pursued, particularly as they regard the republic of France, challenge your most cordial approbation and grateful applause; that I have endeavoured, by every prudent and honorable expedient, to avert the calamities of war, and preserve undiminished, the public harmony and prosperity, and that I could not have gone further in pursuit of these objects, without violating the faith, prostrating the honor, or surrendering the independence of the United States; that by uniting closely with the government, reposing in it a liberal confidence, acquiescing cheerfully in whatever burthens the public exigences may require, you will, with zeal and perseverance, and all the energy of a people determined to be free and independent, resist foreign influence and repel foreign aggression;

aggression ;—you deserve well of your country, and command my most hearty thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE underwritten, inhabitants of the town of Providence, voluntarily assembled in pursuance of public notice, beg leave to address you, with sentiments of personal and profound respect.

The late disclosure of the views and designs of France, in contrast with the pacific disposition of the United States, has excited the most disquieting apprehensions of hostilities from that republic, and the most unlimited confidence, in the wisdom, integrity and patriotism of the administration of our government.

In the progress of the negociation with that republic, whose legitimate origin we were the first to acknowledge—a republic, which at the dawn of its political day, seemed elevated to the most sublime height of virtue, and disclaimed in the first exercise of its power, all right to interfere in the internal concerns of other nations, we observe, with regret, a departure from the great principles of liberty and justice ; and we observe this
with

with the deeper regret, because that country received its first lesson of liberty from ours.

After the numberless and trying proofs, which the United States had given of their sincere desire to preserve an impartial neutrality; their repeated applications for redress, might at least have been answered with professions of amity and a love of justice; instead of an avowed intention, still further to impoverish us, and to pursue a studied system of universal domination.

While we lament that some of the inhabitants of this country, have too much attached themselves to European politics, we believe this dangerous mistake proceeded not from a treacherous defection from the cause of their country, but from the fascination of the brilliant spectacle, of a nation victoriously contending for its liberties.

We rejoice that the scales have now fallen from their eyes. They must now see, what enlightened statesmen have seen before, that the sacred name of *liberty*, is prophaned to disguise projects of ambition and conquest.

Your late communications, must cement the public councils, and increase the energy of government.

The inadmissible, and exorbitant exactions of France, will not only deprive them of every American advocate, but convince the world, that an adjustment of the differences

110 PATRIOTIC

ences between the two countries, was impracticable on any other basis, than the prostration of America at the feet of France. The result in the mind of every American must be, a manly determination to vindicate the honor and interest of his country.

Should we be driven to the last appeal, we have an extensive country full of resources, and we trust in God, who has hitherto so signally favoured us, that he will again inspire us with that glowing zeal, and undimmed courage, which, in a period not remote, this people so successfully displayed; and in such an exigency, we shall derive additional confidence, from the firm moderation, the long tried integrity, the ripened wisdom, which induced an enlightened nation, to place you at the helm of government.

We cannot close without assuring you of our entire approbation of your conduct in relation to the foreign concerns of this country, of our prayers for your personal health and happiness, and of our readiness, with our lives and fortunes, to support the dignity and independence of the United States.



To the INHABITANTS of PROVIDENCE.

GENTLEMEN,

THE respectful address from the inhabitants of Providence, who have been my friends

friends and neighbours from my youth, was by no means necessary to convince me of their affectionate attachment.

Imagination can scarcely conceive a stronger contrast, than has lately been disclosed between the views of France and those of the United States. I will not distinguish between the views of the governments and those of the nations; if in France they are different, the nation, whose right it is, will soon shew they are so; if in America they are the same, this fact also will be shewn by the nation in a short time in a strong light. I cannot, however, see in this contrast a sufficient cause of disquieting apprehensions of hostilities from that republic: hostilities have already come thick upon us by surprize, from that quarter—If others are coming, we shall be better prepared to meet and repel them.

When we were the first to acknowledge the legitimate origin of the French republic, we discovered at least as much zeal, sincerity and honesty of heart, as we did of knowledge of the subject, or foresight of its consequences—the ill success of those proofs which the United States have given of their sincere desire to preserve an impartial neutrality, and of their repeated negotiations for redress of wrongs, have demonstrated, that other means must be resorted to, in order to obtain it.

I agree

I agree entirely with you in acquitting in general, those of our citizens, who have too much attached themselves to European politics, of any treacherous defection from the cause of their country. The French Revolution, was a spectacle, so novel, and the cause was so complicated, that I have ever acknowledged myself incompetent to judge of it, as it concerned the happiness of France, or operated on that of mankind; my countrymen in general, were, I believe as ill qualified as myself to decide; the French nation alone, had the right, and the capacity, and to them it should have been resigned; we should have suspended our judgments, and been as neutral and impartial between the parties in France, as between the nations of Europe.

The honor of our nation is now universally seen to be at stake, and its independence in question, and all America appears to declare, with one heart and one voice, a manly determination to vindicate both.

The legislature, by the late publication of instructions and dispatches, have appealed to the world, and if the iron hand of power has not locked up the presses of Europe, in such a manner that the facts cannot be communicated to mankind, the impartial sense, and the voice of human nature, must be in our favor. If perseverance in injustice
should

should necessitate the last appeal, whatever causes we may have to humble ourselves before the supreme tribunal, we have none, for any other sentiment, than the pride of virtue, and honest indignation, against the late conduct of France towards us.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your personal civilities to me, and return your kind wishes for my happiness.

Your noble declaration of your readiness, with your lives and fortunes, to support the dignity and independence of the United States, will receive the applause of your country, and of all who have the sentiments and feelings of men.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE State Society of Cincinnati of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, assembled to celebrate the birth-day of our national independence, beg leave respectfully to address you on the present momentous crisis of our public affairs. We have viewed the progress of your administration with that solicitude and anxiety which become free citizens, who know how to appreciate the blessings of liberty. And it is with extreme

treme regret, that we have observed the attempts of certain profligate and designing men to weaken the bond of national union, and diminish the respect due to the laws, the constitution, and the magistracy. But we are relieved from our apprehensions, by a clear conviction, that the firm, patriotic and enlightened policy pursued by the chief magistrate of the United States, supported by a great and respectable majority of our fellow-citizens, will not only protect our country from national insult and degradation, but place her on that point of elevation to which she is entitled by her courage, her virtues and successful struggle in the cause of freedom. With a sincerity void of duplicity, we assure you of our entire approbation of all the measures you have pursued to preserve the peace of our country; and it is with indignation we have witnessed every attempt to obtain an end so desirable to humanity, and the repose of nations, treated with insolence and contempt by a foreign power, whose insidious professions induced us to expect tranquillity, while her conduct bade us arm to support our sovereignty and independence, or tamely submit to be governed by "diplomatic skill" and foreign influence.—We are determined to live and die *free*—and we are ready *once more* to rally round the standard of our country, headed by that illustrious chief, who, at a time that
proved

proved the patriot and hero, led us to victory and independence. Every sacrifice which the future circumstances of our country may require, under whatever leader, we shall consider as nothing, when put in competition with the rights of a free, sovereign and independent nation—and we hope and trust by the blessing of Heaven, and the wisdom of our Executive, aided by the councils of the United States, and the generous efforts of her sons, that we shall be able to repel all foreign aggression, and transmit unimpaired our fair inheritance to latest posterity.



*To the SOCIETY of the CINCINNATI, in the
State of RHODE-ISLAND and PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for your respectful remembrance of me on the birth-day of our United States.—The clear conviction you acknowledge of the firm, patriotic and enlightened policy, pursued by the chief magistrate of the United States, after a review of the progress of his administration, will encourage his heart, and strengthen his hands.—Our country, supported by a great and respectable majority of its inhabitants, will not only be protected from a degrading submission to national insults, but be placed, I
L trust,

trust, on that point of elevation, where by her courage and virtues she is entitled to stand. The best "diplomatic skill" is *honesty*; and whenever the nation we complain of, shall have recourse to *that*, she may depend upon an opportunity to boast of the success of her address—till then she will employ her *finesse* in vain. On the day you resolved to live and die *free*, and declared yourselves ready to rally round the standard of your country, headed by that illustrious chief, who, at a time that proved the patriot and hero, led you to victory—I was employed in the best of measures in my power to obtain a gratification of your wishes, which I am not without hopes may prove successful.—In a country like ours, every sacrifice ought to be considered as nothing, when put in competition with the rights of a free and sovereign nation; and I trust, that by the blessing of Heaven, and the valor of our citizens, under their ancient and glorious leader, you will be able to transmit your fairest inheritance to posterity.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the STUDENTS of RHODE-ISLAND
COLLEGE, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

YOUR late communication to Congress,
from our envoys to the French republic,
excites

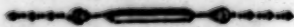
excites in our breasts the liveliest solicitude for the welfare of our country. We regret that your efforts amicably to accommodate the difficulties, in which we are at present involved, have not been attended with that success, which a confidence in your administration induced us to expect. With indignation we learn the humiliating conditions demanded of us by France, and trust they will never be complied with, while a drop of the American blood remains unshed.

During our late glorious struggle for independence, this seat of literature bore a distinguished part in the common calamities of our country. Her mouldering walls even now evince the cause in which she suffered. Sufficiently have we, already, experienced the evils of war;—sufficiently strong are the inducements which lead us to desire peace; yet to us, nothing can be more humiliating than to sacrifice our liberties, to avert the former, or preserve the latter. Sooner will we confederate with the great mass of our citizens, in the public cause, rally around the standard of liberty, resolved to live free, or perish by one noble effort, in the cause of violated liberty.

At a period, when such principles are avowed as threaten destruction to liberty, religion, and the repose of all nations, when the American character is debased and degraded,

graded, by false and calumnious insinuations; we hope we shall not be considered as deviating from propriety, by expressing our unfeigned approbation of your public conduct, and our fixed determination never to survive our national independence.

Accept, Sir, the most ardent desires of the students of this seminary, for the prosperity of the United States, and their united prayers for your health and happiness.



To the STUDENTS *of* RHODE-ISLAND
COLLEGE.

GENTLEMEN,

THIS address, following so soon after those demonstrations of confidence, respect and affection, which I received from you, my amiable young friends, at your university, the last year, has tenderly affected my sensibility.

The solicitude you manifest for the welfare of your country, well becomes you, who have long to live, and as I hope, and believe have illustrious parts to act, in the naval, military, civil and religious institutions of society.

While I share, in your regrets for the ill success of my efforts to accommodate difficulties, my heart sympathizes in your gener-
ous

ous indignation, at the unworthy returns we have received, and with you, I trust, that no disgraceful demands will ever be complied with.

America in general, and your part of it in particular, though ever averse to war, have always been familiar with it, because from the first plantation of the country, they never could avoid it, for any long course of years.

The fifteen years of peace, which have been enjoyed, since the year 1782, is the longest period of tranquillity, perhaps, which we have ever enjoyed. The longer the peace, the greater aversion of the citizens to war, as many republicans of Europe have fatally experienced; in this consideration, you may perhaps find some consolation, if war cannot be avoided without a sacrifice of honor.

Your unfeigned approbation of my public conduct is as honorable to me, as your fixed determination, never to survive your national independence is glorious to yourselves.

In return for your kind wishes, I sincerely pray that you and your university, may flourish forever in the happy fruits of liberty, literature, science, morals and religion.

JOHN ADAMS.

CONNECTICUT.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE Legislature of the State of Connecticut is not in the habit of interfering in the administration of the general government, nor of obtruding opinions or advice upon the councils of the Union. We have been accustomed to exhibit, as a fair and sufficient proof of our affection for the national constitution, an uniform obedience to the laws, and an undeviating respect for the constituted authorities; but at a time when the American nation is deeply injured and insulted, by the lawless aggressions and imperious claims of a foreign power—when our enemies profess to confide in our disunion, and boast of “the means” of severing the affections of our citizens from the government of their choice—it would ill comport with our duty or our feelings to repress the sentiments with which we are animated.

That the United States, extensively concerned in commercial intercourse, should be, in some degree affected by a war which desolates Europe, was to be expected—But that a neutrality, strict and impartial, should be openly and insidiously attacked—that intrigues, of a complexion and character the most

most formidable to our internal peace, should be industriously practised—that one ambassador should be refused an audience; and that three envoys sent expressly as the messengers of peace, should be treated with contemptuous neglect—or, for their overtures so just and honorable, demands the most insolent and insufferable should be substituted by the government of a nation assuming the high appellation of “a great and magnanimous republic,” was not to be believed till realized, and can be ascribed only to a lust of domination which knows no bounds, and to an abandonment of the principles of morality and justice, without example in the history of the world.

Filled with astonishment and indignation, at events which threaten our national existence, we highly applaud the dignity and firmness, so conspicuously displayed by the Executive, and the prompt and efficacious measures adopted by the government; and we assure them of our firm and hearty support.

We deprecate war—but we cherish our independences;—it was won by a struggle too severe, to be easily surrendered. We revere the names, the virtues and the sufferings of our ancestors—The inestimable gift of civil and religious freedom derived from them, shall not be impaired on our hands; and no sacrifice of blood or treasure shall be esteemed

seemed too dear, to transmit the precious inheritance to posterity.

Accept, Sir, in this perilous hour, our most fervent wishes, for your personal happiness, and for the peace and honor of the nation over which you preside. Reposing entire confidence in the wisdom and fortitude of our rulers, we commit them and the interests of this great people, to the God of our fathers.



To His Excellency JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR, and the Honorable the LEGISLATURE of the State of CONNECTICUT.

GENTLEMEN,

AN address, so affectionate and respectful, carries with it a dignity and authority, which is the more honorable to me, as it comes from a legislature, which although not in the habit of interfering in the administration of the general government, has exhibited an uniform affection for the national constitution, and an undeviating respect to the laws, and constituted authorities.

There can never be a time when it will be more necessary for the nation to express the sentiments by which it is animated, than when it is deeply injured, by lawless aggressions, and insulted by imperious claims of a foreign

foreign power, professing to confide in our disunion, and boasting of the means of severing the affections of our citizens from the government of their choice.

Your approbation of the conduct and measures of government, and assurances of a firm and hearty support, are of great and high importance, and demand my most respectful and grateful acknowledgments.

With you I cherish our independence; revere the names, the virtues and the sufferings of our ancestors; and admire the resolution, that the inestimable gift of civil and religious freedom shall never be impaired in our hands, and that no sacrifice of blood or treasure, shall be esteemed too dear, to transmit the precious inheritance to posterity.

I return my most fervent wishes, for your personal happiness, and the peace and honor of the nation, committing all, with all their interests, to the God of our fathers.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the INHABITANTS of the Town of
HARTFORD, to JOHN ADAMS, PRES-
IDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

AMID the general voice of our country,
which is called forth at this important peri-
od,

od, we hope that an address from the inhabitants of Hartford may be neither improper nor unacceptable.

Though we strongly feel the indignities, which the United States have received from the temporary rulers of France, and lament their unprovoked depredations upon our commerce, yet since it is evident, that their momentary friendship could be purchased only by the sacrifice of our wealth and independence ; permit us to consider the issue of your late endeavors to negotiate with that haughty power, as a subject rather of just congratulation, than despondence.

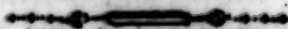
The designs of foreign hostility, and the views of domestic treachery, are now fully disclosed. The moderation, wisdom and dignity of our administration, have awed into silence the clamors of faction, and pacified the thousand tongues of calumny. The spirit of the independent freemen is again awakened, and its combined force will be irresistible. Situated at a happy distance from the desperate contentions of oppressive monarchies, and unformed republics, while we continue firm and united, we can only be involved in the skirts of that storm, which shakes Europe to its foundations. Internal faction and treason alone can endanger our government ; and we are happy to find that these exist only in the feeble efforts of a few
disappointed

disappointed partizans. Though some of the southern states have been artfully misrepresented, as opposed to the federal government, and enemies to its administration, we do not hesitate to express our confidence in the collected firmness and wisdom which they have ever displayed on the approach of real danger. Nor can we doubt that they will join us with equal spirit to crush every attempt at disorganization, disunion and anarchy. The malignant leaders of faction, who for their own advancement, would overspread America with discord and slaughter, or destroy us in the insidious embraces of foreign fraternization, must prepare to meet the indignation of the people, whom they so long attempted to deceive, and to feel their influence annihilated on the discovery of their efforts and designs.

Relying, with perfect confidence, on the wisdom and patriotism of your administration, on the increasing firmness of the legislature, and the strength and union of the people, we humbly trust that the hand of Providence, which has supported us through greater perils, will enable us to withstand the arts or attacks of the foreign or internal enemies of our freedom.

In us you will ever find, not the servile partizans of Britain; France, or any external domination, but men glorying in the rights of American independence, and warmly

ly attached to the government of our choice, whose administration possesses our highest esteem, and if necessary, may command our utmost exertions.



To the INHABITANTS of the Town of HARTFORD, in the State of CONNECTICUT.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH the sentiments and conduct of the people of Connecticut, as expressed upon all occasions by themselves at home, and their representatives in both Houses of Congress, have been so unanimous, and uniform in support of the government, as to render their interposition at this crisis unnecessary, yet this address from the citizens of Hartford, is not the less agreeable to me, or deserving my gratitude.

I have never considered the issue of our late endeavors to negotiate with the French republic, as a subject either of congratulation or despondence ; as on the one hand, I should be happy in the friendship of France upon honorable conditions, under any government she may choose to assume ; so on the other, I see no cause of despondency under a continuance of her enmity, if such is her determined disposition---Providence may indeed intend us a favor above our wishes, and a blessing beyond our foresight,

in

in the extinction of an influence which might soon have become more fatal than war.

If the designs of foreign hostility, and the views of domestic treachery are now fully disclosed ; if the moderation, dignity and wisdom of government have awed into silence the clamors of faction, and palsied the thousand tongues of calumny ; if the spirit of independent freemen is again awakened, and its force is combined, I agree with you that it will be irresistible.

I hesitate not, to express a confidence equal to yours, in the collected firmness and wisdom which the southern states have ever displayed, on the approach of danger ; nor can I doubt that they will join with all their fellow-citizens, with equal spirit, to crush every attempt at disorganization, disunion and anarchy : the vast extent of their settlements, and greater distance from the centre of intelligence, may require more time to mature their judgment, and expose them to more deceptions, by misrepresentation ; but in the end, their sensations, reflections and decisions are purely American.

Your confidence in the legislature and administration, have been perfectly well known from the commencement of the government, and have ever done it honor.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the CITIZENS of NEW-YORK, to the
PRESIDENT, SENATE, and HOUSE of REP-
RESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.*

A NUMBER of respectable citizens of this place, assembled together, considering our present situation, with respect to the republic of France, as forming an important crisis in our public affairs ; and feeling the warmest attachment to the constitution, and an unshaken confidence in the constituted authorities of our country, conceived that at this time, to evidence that attachment, and that confidence, could not but be useful to our common interests, and acceptable to those who direct our public councils.

They therefore appointed a committee to convey to the Executive of the United States, and to both Houses of Congress, their approbation of the measures pursued by the Executive, in the late negotiation with France ; to assure them of their unabated confidence of our rulers ; and of their readiness and zeal to forward and support every measure which shall be directed for the interest, and the honor of our country.

In communicating these sentiments, our minds were naturally led to a review of the
conduct

conduct of our government towards the French republic ; and in that review, it is with pleasure we observe that we have beheld it on every occasion, performing with the most perfect integrity and good faith, all its engagements to that country and evincing its regard by every act of friendship in its power, consistent with those duties which it owed to other nations.

While on the other hand, the conduct of France to this country has been a series of insult, depredation and menace, more becoming conquerors and masters than the friends and allies of a free and independent people.

Under different pretences, as variable as they have been futile, she has insulted our government, in the person of our chief magistrate ; she has attempted to sow dissensions among our citizens, and to separate them from their government ; she has in contravention of the faith of treaties, no less than of the laws, of nations, despoiled our countrymen when engaged in a lawful commerce ; and she has imprisoned their persons. To our mild remonstrances and our pacific overtures, for accommodation of differences and restoration of former friendship, she has answered only by fresh indignities. Not content with humbling our country by the refusal to receive an ordinary ambassador, sent to explain and conciliate, she has dis-
dained

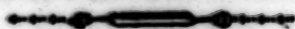
dained even to treat, in the usual forms, with the extraordinary ministers, who in the persevering spirit of peace and accommodation were afterwards deputed ; as if anxious to accumulate disgrace upon us, she held out to them the most humiliating terms ; they were told that merely to entitle them to a hearing, their country must become tributary ; and they were impliedly menaced that the American republic would be erased from the list of nations, if the resentment of France was not appeased !!!

Of such conduct there can be but one opinion. To such terms, freemen can give but one reply. To you, fathers of our country, it belongs to give that reply ; and we are persuaded it will be such as becomes Americans.

For ourselves and those whom we represent, to our virtuous and independent chief magistrate, we say, that while the wisdom and moderation in which he has conducted the late negociation with France, have raised him in our esteem, his patriotism and unshaken firmness have rivetted him in our confidence.

To our fellow-citizens in the Senate and House of Representatives, we declare, that conscious of the rectitude of our country's conduct, and deeply impressed with a sense of the wrongs she has sustained, we are determined

terminated to support at all hazards, such measures as shall be deemed necessary to maintain her honor, her freedom and her independence.



To the CITIZENS of NEW-YORK.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address to the President, Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, has been transmitted to me, by your committee.

Among all the resolutions that have been taken, and addresses which have been presented at this important crisis, I know of none which have expressed sentiments more just, approbation and confidence more entire, or resolutions more patriotic and decided, and consequently none which will give more satisfaction to the public and to the legislature, or which has more cordially and deservedly, my thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a time when you are receiving from every part of the Union, testimonies of respect for your character, and approbation of

of your measures, permit the Young Men of the city of New-York, to join the general voice of their countrymen, and express to you the gratitude, esteem and confidence with which your conduct has inspired them.

We have not the vanity to suppose, that the applause of inexperienced youth, can afford any high gratification to your mind, conscious as it must be of its own integrity and resources. In seasons of peace and tranquillity, we should have been restrained by that diffidence becoming our years, from mingling in affairs which have been committed to abler hands.—But in the hour of danger, when our shores are threatened with ravage by the republic of France, and our constituted authorities with dissolution; when our political rulers are treated with indignity, and we with our fellow citizens charged with disunion and disaffection to our government, a sense of truth and the feelings which our wrongs have excited, induce us thus publicly to declare our unshaken attachment to our country, and our determined resolution to support those measures which its administration may direct or advise for its security.

We once were attached to France; it was an enthusiasm in favor of liberty. If that enthusiasm has ever drawn from us, in common with some of our countrymen, demon-
strations

strations of attachment upon which its rulers have founded their belief, that we are unfriendly to our government, we consider it as a cause of regret, but we assure you, that the same enthusiasm now unites us more closely in the defence of our country, and inspires us with a spirit of resistance against the efforts of that republic to destroy our independence. Holland and Venice are instructive lessons to the United States, of the insecurity of too much forbearance, and the danger of misplaced confidence; but, we need not appeal to the example of other nations. The multiplied and unprovoked aggressions of France, and her injurious and insulting treatment to our ministers of peace, are sufficient to arouse all the energies of the soul, and to interest every feeling of the heart in the cause of our country. Regardless of the faith of treaties, and in violation of the laws of nations, her rulers authorise the capture of our vessels and the imprisonment of our citizens, attempt to sow dissension among our countrymen, and to fill the measure of their injustice, they spurn the olive branch offered by our government, and refuse to listen to us, unless upon terms to which freemen disdain to submit; thus injured, insulted and threatened, resentment becomes a virtue, and resistance a duty which we owe to ourselves and to posterity; to us our liberty and independence, our country

country and religion, are dearer than life; when our political rulers declare them to be in danger, every citizen who possesses the sentiments of a patriot or the feelings of a man, must unite, and by timely and spirited exertions protect them from sacrifice. We claim it as our right, as we know it to be our duty to be placed foremost in their defence, and if war only can preserve them, we are prepared to meet it with becoming resolution.

Confident in such a cause of the support of our parents and friends, the consolations of conscience and the approbation of God, we pledge ourselves to you and to the world, that if our country should be assailed by foreign invasion or domestic treason, we will fly to its assistance at a moment's warning, and at the hazard of our lives, protect its government and independence.



To the YOUNG MEN of the City of New-YORK.

GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVED this becoming, amiable and judicious address, from the Young Men of the city of New-York, with great pleasure.

The situation in which nature has placed your State, its numerous advantages, and its population

population so rapidly increasing, render it of great importance to the Union of the nation, that its youth should be possessed of good principles and faithful dispositions. The specimen you have given in this address, could not be more satisfactory.

I assure you, my young friends, that the satisfaction with my conduct, which has been expressed by the rising generation, has been one of the highest gratifications I ever received ; because if I have not been deceived in my own motives, I can sincerely say, that their happiness and that of their posterity, more than my own, or that of my contemporaries, has been the object of the studies and labors of my life.

Your attachment to France, was in common with Americans in general—the enthusiasm for liberty which contributed to excite it, was in sympathy with great part of the people of Europe. The causes which produced that great event were so extensive through the European world, and so long established, that it must appear a vast scheme of Providence, progressing to its end, incomprehensible to the views, designs, hopes and fears of individuals or nations, kings or princes, philosophers or statesmen. It would be weak to ascribe the glory of it, or impute the blame to any individual or any nation ; it would be equally absurd for any individual

ual or nation to pretend to wisdom or power, equal to the mighty task of arresting its progress or diverting its course. May the human race in general, and the French nation in particular, derive ultimately from it an amelioration of their condition, in the extension of liberty, civil and religious, in increased virtue, wisdom and humanity. For myself, however, I confess, I see not how, nor when, nor where. In the mean time, these incomprehensible speculations ought not to influence our conduct in any degree. It is our duty to judge by the standard of truth, integrity and conscience, of what is right and wrong, to contend for our own rights, and to fight for our own altars and fireplaces, as much as at any former period of our lives. In your own beautiful and pathetic language, the same enthusiasm ought now to unite us more closely, in the defence of our country, and inspire us with a spirit of resistance against the efforts of that republic to destroy our independence. If my enthusiasm is not more extravagant than yours has ever been, our independence will be one essential instrument for reclaiming the fermented world, and bringing good out of the mass of evil.

The respect you acknowledge to your parents, is one of the best of symptoms. The ties of father, son and brother, the sacred bands of marriage, without which those connexions

anxions would be no longer dear and venerable, call on you and all our youth to beware of contaminating your country with the foul abominations of the French revolution.

JOHN ADAMS.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT *of the*
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

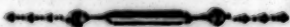
WE, the citizens of Albany, having a lively sense of the danger with which our country is threatened by a foreign nation, beg leave to communicate to you our entire approbation of your conduct at this critical period, and to assure you of our sincere disposition to support, with zeal and firmness, whatever measures the government of the United States deem necessary to vindicate and maintain our national honor and independence.

The moderation which this country has uniformly manifested towards the French republic, notwithstanding its repeated and unprovoked aggressions on our neutral and sovereign rights, is an incontestible proof of our ardent solicitude to cultivate peace. But there is a point beyond which even the blessings of peace cannot be sought without servility—That point has been recently fixed between France and America, by the insolent

lent demands made upon us; demands which we cannot submit to, without prostrating our independence, and sacrificing our best interests.

The presumptuous hope, announced by the agents of the republic to our envoys extraordinary, that the American people are divided from their government, indicates that a perfidious attachment to the cause of France, lurks among us. The fallacy of this hope, it is equally our duty and our interest to expose. We therefore solemnly pledge ourselves, in the most unequivocal manner, to sustain, with energy, the constituted authorities of our country, against all the machinations of its enemies, whether foreign or domestic.

Accept, Sir, of our best wishes that a gracious Providence may long preserve your precious life, and continue to direct your administration, and that when the measure of your days shall be filled, you may receive the glorious reward that is due to eminent virtue and patriotism.



*To the CITIZENS of ALBANY, in the State
of NEW-YORK.*

GENTLEMEN,

THE address of the citizens of Albany, has been presented to me by their representative in Congress, Mr. Glen.

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I could not look over the long roll of respectable subscribers, without the sentiments of gratitude, esteem and respect.

The lively sense of the danger, you express, with which our country is threatened by a foreign nation, is as well founded, as your approbation of my conduct at this critical period, and your sincere disposition to support, with zeal and firmness, whatever measures the government of the United States shall deem necessary, to vindicate and maintain our national honor and independence, are agreeable to me, and satisfactory to the public.

The moderation of this country towards the French republic, is almost without example; it would not, certainly, have been so long continued, towards any other nation in the world—it is not only a proof of our desire of peace, but of our particular attachment to France.

There is indeed a point, beyond which, a love of peace, and friendship to France, cannot be indulged without servility.

Although the French government appears to have adopted against us the most perfect system of hostility in their power, it is not for me to say how long we shall shackle ourselves, by reserves of friendship to them.

That a perfidious attachment to France, lurks among us, is most certain. We may,

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however,

however, console ourselves at this time, that it contaminates very few native Americans, and I should hope not many naturalized strangers. Pledges like yours, will soon reduce the number of both.

Your kind wishes, that a gracious Providence may preserve my life, and direct my administration, are too affecting to be answered by me, but by prayers for the citizens of Albany and their posterity forever.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE, the citizens of Hudson and its vicinity, in the county of Columbia, and State of New-York, considering the present state and aspect of public affairs, and feeling in common with our fellow-citizens the wounds inflicted upon our country by the wanton and multiplied aggressions of the French republic, which, spurning all overtures for conciliation, has treated with marked indifference and contempt repeated messengers of peace—added insult to injury, and is daily extending her acts of violence and outrage—her agents insolently boasting of the power and effect of her diplomatic skill—of the party it has created within the United States—

States—exciting opposition and dividing the people from their government ; while on ordinary and less alarming occasions, we consider this mode of manifesting our opinions to our constituted authorities superfluous, if not improper, we cannot at this interesting moment remain silent.

Respect to the opinion of mankind, justice to ourselves and fellow-citizens, and truth itself impel us to declare that we are not divided from the government of our choice—that we pride ourselves in cherishing and supporting it as the fabric of our own hands, peculiarly made for ourselves, adapted to our situation, deliberately put together by the united wisdom and experience of men, who, unawed by despotic power, always knew what it was to be free—That we are determined to preserve it entire, and to transmit it to posterity untarnished and unimpaired ; that whilst we perfectly accord with the measures adopted and pursued by the Executive of the United States to effect conciliation and preserve peace with the French republic, we feel persuaded that nothing consistent with the national honor and interest of our country has been omitted to accomplish the desired object. As much therefore as we deprecate the evils of war, and value the blessings of peace, we cannot hesitate a moment to forget those evils when impelled by duty and necessity, to assert and preserve

preserve our sovereign rights and independence. With entire confidence in the long tried wisdom, firmness and patriotism of the President of the United States, and in the councils of the nation, we feel cheerfully disposed with spirit and fortitude to meet any event which the present state of things may produce, or the destiny of our country incur.

To the CITIZENS of HUDSON and its vicinity, in the County of COLUMBIA, and State of NEW-YORK.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR declaration has been presented to me by your Representative in Congress.

The present aspect of public affairs is indeed portentous, and the wounds inflicted on our country, by the wanton and multiplied aggressions of the French republic, must be felt by every American citizen who is faithful and true—Insult has been added to injury until the measure is full.

The reign of terror and seduction, which began at Paris, has been extended in Europe as far as the Grand Monarch extended it, and is now attempted on this side the Atlantic; but we should remember that Italy and the Netherlands have often been conquered by France, and that she has as often been driven from her conquests with ignominy.

Your

Your attachment to the constitution, approbation of the administration, and confidence in the councils of the nation, are very satisfactory.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE, the Grand Jurors for the body of the county of Columbia, in the State of New-York, beg leave to address you upon the present eventful period in our national affairs.

The late communications made by you to the legislature of the union, exhibit a crisis in our relations to the French republic, which, as it menaces our independence, awakens our zeal, and draws closer our affections to the government by which alone our independence can be secured. We see, with indignation, the insinuations of a foreign power, that there are citizens of the United States so regardless of that distinguishing and impressive title, and so lost to a sense of duty, as to be capable of being made the disgraceful instruments of counteracting the measures of their own free government, and of prostrating it at the feet of foreign domination; and though we trust that every

hope

hope derived from this source will prove delusive, yet we are constrained to separate ourselves from those unworthy individuals and abandoned parricides, if any such there be, who may have encouraged it. If the good wishes heretofore expressed by our citizens for the liberty and prosperity of France, sincere and ardent as they were, should have led to the supposition that their affections might be alienated from their own free, legitimate government; or that they would abet or sanction schemes of aggrandizement in one nation at the expense of the sovereignty of others, we feel a full confidence that the idea will be repelled with indignation, and that it will be evinced that an adherence to principles constitutes *American character*, and that in our attachment to liberty, we know how to distinguish between the semblance and the reality, the empty profession and the solid enjoyment of that blessing. In contemplating our government as a free representative republic, we recognize in its very structure solid grounds of liberal confidence, and it is with equal pride and pleasure, that we bear our testimony to its excellence, and to the comprehensive views of those enlightened statesmen who framed it, by declaring that it has in practice justified the theory, thereby displaying a splendid example honorable to human nature and instructive to mankind,
freedom

freedom and order, liberty and law, can, by a wise policy, be made to exist together.

In the conduct of our government toward the republic, we have observed a dignified forbearance, which may have been misinterpreted by them into pusillanimity, but which affording the shield of conscious integrity, we consider as the sure presage of energy and fortitude in the hour of difficulty—When that hour shall arrive, we trust that the government of our country, as it has derived its origin from, so it will receive the efficacious support of, the people; and on our part, as we value the blessings of social order and the rights of self-government, disdaining all attempts to reconcile an attachment to the constitution, with a systematic opposition to those who are chosen to administer it, we pledge ourselves, explicitly and unequivocally, to afford that support to the legislative and executive authorities of our country, in all those measures which by them shall be deemed necessary to defend and maintain its honor, dignity and independence.



*To the GRAND JURORS of the body of the
County of COLUMBIA, in the State of
NEW-YORK.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this well-written
and excellent address. The addresses which
I daily

I daily receive from my fellow-citizens, in greater numbers than I can possibly answer, is the cause of the long delay of this.

Your indignation and alarm are well founded. If there are citizens capable of being made the disgraceful instruments of counteracting the measures of their own free government, and of prostrating it at the feet of foreign domination, all is lost.

The most infallible criterion to distinguish those republics which can be supported and preserved from those which cannot, is the unanimity with which they reject foreign influence and resist foreign hostility.

In contemplating our government as a free representative republic, we should always recollect that representative government is elective government, and although the philosophers of our age (conscious that elective governments had from experience acquired a bad name in Europe) have been careful to give them a new one, yet we shall not, I trust, be deceived by the change of a name. We know that our government, whether we call it elective or representative, depends for its existence on the purity of our elections, unbiaſſed by foreign influence and untainted by corruption.

Our government has indeed displayed an example honorable to human nature, because our elections have been pure—but the
corruption

corruption of the best things is the worst. If our elections become corrupt, they will exhibit a horrid example disgraceful to human nature.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the INHABITANTS of the County of
OTSEGO, in the State of NEW-YORK, to
JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

ATTACHED by every tie that can bind us to the most ardent love of our country, we cannot refrain from expressing the great solicitude we feel on the subject of the present eventful period of our national affairs. Conscious of the honesty and justice of our government toward every nation in the world with which it hath had any relations, we confidently flattered ourselves with the expectation that we should have preserved our neutrality, and the enjoyment of peace throughout the sanguinary war which hath so long and doth still continue to spread havoc and desolation through several parts of Europe. The rapacity and aggressions however of one of the belligerent nations, do now very seriously threaten to disturb that tranquillity, which the virtue and the wisdom of our rulers have endeavored most earnestly

earnestly to preserve. We rely with great confidence on the good sense, fortitude and integrity of our fellow-citizens throughout the union, to repel every attack, both foreign and domestic, to which we may be exposed, and we do most solemnly pledge ourselves to support with cheerfulness and with promptitude, such measures for the preservation of the independence and sovereignty of our country as Congress and our rulers may in their wisdom deem expedient. The prudent but energetic regulations which you have adopted and pursued with regard to the unsuccessful negotiation with the republic of France, have been, we conceive, strictly consistent with the honor and dignity of a great nation, and demonstrate in the strongest terms your unceasing regard for our common interest; and merit a continuation of our unfeigned and grateful acknowledgments. We rejoice in the prospect of unanimity on the present important occasion—One sentiment appears, to pervade our land; to devote our lives and fortunes to the maintenance of our rights, as a free people. Under these impressions, we whose lots are cast on the frontiers of our country, beg leave to express our sentiments on the occasion—our pursuit being agriculture, we have no words that we expect will be more grateful to the government we love, and will not part with, but with our
lives,

lives, than those of our sincere assurance, that we will submit with cheerfulness to any equal tax the wisdom of our government may lay on us for the national support; and that we will march with alacrity to any part of the Union to repel an intruder.

To the INHABITANTS of the County of OTSEGO, in the State of New-York.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for your address, presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Cochran.

The solicitude you feel in the present eventful period of our national affairs, is common to the government and people, to all who are attached to their country by an ardent love of it.

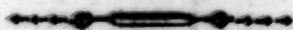
Your reliance on the good sense, fortitude and integrity of your fellow-citizens, I trust will not deceive you; all depends upon these virtues. If these fail us, we are lost, our constitution and administration all depend upon them. Our government without these aids, has no power at home or abroad: We have no other principle of union, or capacity of defence.

Your unfeigned acknowledgments are very obliging to me, and the clear assurances

ees of support to the measures of government, are very encouraging to us all. Your lot on the frontiers, and your pursuits of agriculture, give a weight to your sentiments; you may be supposed to be less heated by passion, less affected by prejudices, and less influenced by partial or local interests than the inhabitants of great cities.

There can be no stronger proof of patriotism, than a cheerful submission to any tax which the wisdom of government may impose, or than a promise to march with alacrity, to any part of the Union to repel an intruder.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the INHABITANTS of the County of
ONEIDA, in the State of NEW-YORK, to
the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

AT any other period in the political annals of our country, we might have remained silent, reposing ourselves with confidence in the administration of the government of our own choice, and evincing a tranquil but respectful approbation of the measures of that government. But, Sir, when the widespread imputation, of an alienation of the American people from their government, is
 propagated

propagated and accredited abroad ; when a foreign nation, which has by her agents denounced our independence, cherishes the slander, and counts upon our divisions as the means of national degradation and abasement, we have deemed it our indispensable duty to assure the Executive of our government, and proclaim to the world, that that *alienation* and *those divisions* have no place in this part of the Union. In recurring to the past, we have sought with anxious minds for just grounds of offence in the conduct of our government towards the French republic ; but in this review, those grounds have been sought for in vain.

From the first dawn of the eventful revolution in France to this day, we have witnessed in the conduct of the American government, to the French nation, on the most trying occasions, amidst rude external assaults, and the more dangerous undermining influence within, an unceasing regard to justice ; an inflexible adherence to the stipulations of subsisting treaties, and a sacred respect for the great land-marks of moral duty and rectitude : a conduct which we are proud, as independent Americans, to have preserved in the annals of our country for example to future times.

Happy would it have been for America,
and doubly so for distressed Europe, if cor-
O responding

responding sentiments of justice and virtue had animated the breasts of the rulers of France, and influenced the councils of that nation ! But what a reverse ! what a dereliction of public virtue ! what a triumph of force over justice ! of despotism over laws ! What scenes of depravity and corruption are disclosed to astonished America !

In vain we look for a display of those transcendent virtues of which the world has witnessed in the rulers of France, so ample and repeated professions. The cause of republican government is disgraced in Europe forever ; the fond expectations of the sincere advocates of reform on the other side of the Atlantic, are dashed to the ground ; and the friends to the rights of man are constrained to weep for suffering humanity.

While we view with much concern, the present alarming crisis, we cannot believe the period has arrived, when Americans are to despair of their republic, and pass under a foreign yoke.

There is not to be found one community of freemen on earth, which is unsubdued by the artifices, and unsubjugged by the arms of the *all-conquering republic*.

With the fullest confidence in our government, we do not hesitate to declare, that we are prepared for any sacrifice, that the sovereignty and independence of our country

try may demand ; and if war must be the necessary resort, the independent yeomanry of this country, with arms in their hands, and zeal in their hearts, will rally round their government, and appealing to the great Dispenser of justice and Arbiter of nations for the rectitude of their conduct, will cheerfully discharge the last and great duty of freemen.



To the INHABITANTS of the County of ONEIDA, in the State of NEW-YORK.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for your address which has been presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Cochran.

The testimony you bear to the justice, good faith and moral rectitude of your government, and your satisfaction to have its conduct preserved in the annals of our country, for an example to future times, are very full and honorable.

The cause of a certain species of republican government, is disgraced in Europe forever ; yet there are other kinds better digested, and more adapted to the nature of man, which we may still hope to see introduced.

When the necessity of controlling the passions of whole nations, as well as parties and factions, by the organization and arrangement of government, shall be better understood,

stood, the advocates for reform may still be gratified, and the friend of the rights of man still rejoice in the progress of humanity.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the OFFICERS of the BRIGADE of the
City and County of NEW-YORK and Coun-
ty of RICHMOND, to His Excellency JOHN
ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED
STATES*

SIR,

AMIDST the numerous testimonials of personal respect, and of attachment to the government, which you are daily receiving from every part of the Union, we presumed that an expression of similar sentiments from the officers of this brigade, would not be unacceptable to you.

Attached to our country by every tie of nature and affection, and to our constitution and government—from the soundest dictates of our judgment and understanding, we have ever considered the happiness and prosperity of the former, as inseparably connected with the honor and independence of the latter. While, therefore, we have, with pleasure, beheld our government during the late war which has convulsed and desolated the European world, pursuing with uprightness and integrity

integrity that system of neutrality, which could alone secure to us the blessings of peace, it was with the highest indignation we observed the republic of France, under various pretences, obstructing that peaceful system, refusing us our neutral rights, assailing our very independence as a nation—Confiding in your well known patriotism and abilities, we trusted that such measures would be pursued as would restore to our country its violated rights, or leave its enemies without an excuse, nor has this hope been disappointed. The instructions to our envoys at that republic, have shewn to us, and will evince to the world, that to preserve the peace, and to restore the friendship that once subsisted between the two republics, every thing on the part of our government has been attempted, consistent with those sacred duties which we owe to our rights and honor, as a free and independent people.

Impressed with these sentiments, and with this conviction, we have thought it our duty at this eventful moment, when the independence of our country has been menaced, thus to declare, that while in common with the rest of our fellow-citizens, we consider peace as a blessing highly to be prized, and studiously to be cultivated, yet, educated in the principles of our late glorious revolution, we are convinced that war, with all its

attendant distresses, is far preferable to a surrender of our national freedom and independence; and that we are therefore prepared, and *will at all hazards*, support the government of our country in such measures as they shall direct, for the defence of our honor, our freedom, and our independence.

*To the OFFICERS of the BRIGADE of the
City and County of NEW-YORK and Coun-
ty of RICHMOND.*

GENTLEMEN,

NO testimonials of personal respect to me, or of attachment to the government, could be more acceptable than those in this address, which breathe the genuine sentiments of Americans attached to their country, by every tie of nature and affection.

I am happy, in your opinion, that those who insult and injure us, are left without excuse, because every thing on the part of our government has been attempted, consistent with those sacred duties which we owe to our rights and honor, as a free and independent people.

Your opinion, that war with all its attendant distresses, is far preferable to a surrender of our national freedom, is undoubtedly just and becoming Americans; but our situation

is

is such, that a surrender of our independence to those who assail it, would only more surely involve us in the worst war that could fall to our lot.

The real question before us seems to be, whether we shall involve ourselves in an unjust and unnecessary war of offence against one nation,—Or, be involved by the fraud and violence of another, in a just and necessary war of defence.—Besides, how many nations who have never injured, insulted or offended us, are we to assist or contribute to destroy?

It is better to be prepared, as you are, at all hazards, to support the government of our country in the measures necessary for the defence of our honor.

JOHN ADAMS.

NEW-JERSEY.

The MEMORIAL of the INHABITANTS of the County of BURLINGTON, to the PRESIDENT, the SENATE, and the House of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

THAT deeply impressed by a sense of the blessings they enjoy under the truly free and equal

equal government of the United States, they, as members of this happy and highly favored community, are determined at every hazard to maintain their rights, freedom and independence. Attached to their country and constitution, by the strongest ties of interest and affection, your memorialists declare, that as the conduct pursued by the President to preserve peace with foreign nations, merits and receives their perfect and grateful approbation, so their confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of every branch of the government being complete, they pledge themselves firmly to support every measure which may hereafter be thought necessary to secure the rights and independence of the United States.



EXTRACT *from the ANSWER of the PRESIDENT, to the INHABITANTS of the County of BURLINGTON.*

"GENTLEMEN,

"THERE is nothing in the conduct of our enemies more remarkable than their total contempt of the people, while they pretend to do all for the people, and of all real republican governments, while they screen themselves under some of their names and forms; while they are erecting military despotisms, under the delusive names of representative

sentative democracies, they are demolishing the Pope by the most machiavelian maxim of one of his predecessors, "If the good people will be deceived, let *him* be deceived."

"The American people are unquestionably the best qualified, of any great nation in the world, by their character, habits, and all other circumstances, for a real republican government; yet the American people are represented as in opposition, in enmity, and on the point of hostility against the government of their own institution, and the administration of their own choice. If this were true, what would be the consequence? Nothing more, nor less, than that they are ripe for a military despotism, under the domination of a foreign power; it is to me no wonder, that American blood boils at these ideas.

"Your ardent attachment to the constitution and government of the United States, and compleat confidence in all its departments; your firm resolution, at every hazard, to maintain, support and defend, with your lives and fortunes, every measure, which by your lawful representatives, may be deemed necessary, to protect the rights, liberty and independence of the United States of America, will do you honor with all the world, and with all posterity.

JOHN ADAMS."

The

The ADDRESS and MEMORIAL of the CITIZENS of NEWARK, in the State of NEW-JERSEY, to the PRESIDENT, the SENATE, and the House of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

THAT your memorialists view the present time as pregnant with events highly important to the peace, happiness and safety of the United States, and therefore requiring the most perfect unanimity, both in the national councils, and among every description of citizens.

The communications from our commissioners at Paris, and the instructions, given to them by the President of the United States, and which are now made public, have produced a very happy effect, by convincing us that every measure, consistent with the honor, interest and independence of the United States, has been attempted by our government to effect a good understanding between us and the French republic; and we lament that, for want of a similar disposition on the part of the French republic, all those endeavors have as yet proved abortive.

Your memorialists possess the most unshaken confidence in the government, and trust that while they are pursuing just measures to produce an amicable adjustment of
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all the existing differences which at present subsist between the French republic and the United States, they will at the same time be prepared with firmness to repel all attempts that are made hostile to the peace, government and dignity of the United States.

Your memorialists are fully persuaded that the difference in opinion which has prevailed among the citizens of the United States, has been owing to delusion and misrepresentation; and that the information lately received, has led almost all our citizens to a determination to rally round the constitution, and to defend the same with our lives and fortunes.



To the CITIZENS OF NEWARK, *in the State*
of NEW-JERSEY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE present period of universal effervescence through the world, is indeed pregnant with events highly important to the safety of all nations: that nation must be unconnected with the rest of mankind, which can depend upon a total exemption from its feelings, and sympathies: the United States are so largely and extensively connected, that they ought to have been sooner apprized of the necessity of unanimity in council, and among the citizens at large.

I rejoice

I rejoice with you in any event which may have produced the happy effect of uniting the people in supporting their own government, and opposing the unreasonable dispositions of others.

I thank you for your declaration of unshaken confidence in the government, and for your advice, to be prepared with firmness, to repel all attempts that are made, against the peace, government and dignity of the United States ; but I know of no further measures that can be pursued to produce an amicable adjustment of differences with the French republic.

The delusions and misrepresentations, which have misled so many citizens, are very serious evils and must be discountenanced by authority, as well as by the citizens at large, or they will soon produce all kinds of calamities in this country.

If the late information has led almost all our citizens to a determination to rally round the constitution, and defend it with their lives and fortunes, I congratulate you most sincerely on this happy event, so auspicious to the safety, greatness and glory of our country.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE inhabitants of Bridgeton, in the county of Cumberland, New-Jersey, being convened in public meeting, and having taken into consideration the present critical situation of our national affairs, are desirous of making known to you their unanimous opinion on the subject.

Although we disapprove of addresses on ordinary occurrences, which respect the *interior* concerns, or domestic administration of our national government, as we apprehend that our representative bodies and constituted authorities, are the proper constitutional organs for expressing the political sentiment and *will* of the people ; yet, on the present extraordinary occasion, respecting our *exterior* intercourse with the French nation, in which they appear evidently to be influenced and encouraged, in their insults on our national character, and depredations on our commerce, by an erroneous opinion, that there exists a division, between the administrators of the government and the people of this country ; we esteem it an incumbent duty, to testify our *entire* approbation of your conduct, and full confidence in your administration, more especially in relation to the republic of France.

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We

We have observed with much pleasure and satisfaction, that the wise and prudent measures adopted by your predecessor, to preserve and support a fair and impartial neutrality with the belligerent powers of Europe, and to protect the commerce of our country, have been steadily pursued by you. And though we firmly believe that the present misunderstanding between the republics of France and America, cannot fairly be imputed to any unjustifiable conduct on the part of the latter, we, nevertheless, entirely approve of the instructions given to our envoys to the French republic, and the conciliatory and pacific endeavors which have been used, for accommodating the differences, and restoring a friendly intercourse and good understanding with that government.

While we express a just indignation at the disgraceful treatment of our diplomatic agents by the French Directory, we sincerely regret that the desirable objects of their embassy, have hitherto proved unattainable. And should it become necessary to repel, by force, the unjust aggressions of any foreign nation whatever, we are determined, at all events, to support the Executive, and defend the honor, interest, and independence, of our country.

*To the INHABITANTS of BRIDGETON, in
the County of CUMBERLAND, in the State
of NEW-JERSEY.*

GENTLEMEN,

TO you who disapprove of addresses of compliment in general, and of the interposition of constituents in the ordinary course of national affairs, my thanks are more particularly due, for the part you have taken at this extraordinary crisis.

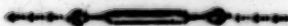
In preparing the project of a treaty to be proposed by Congress to France, in the year 1776, fully apprized of the importance of neutrality, I prescribed to myself as a rule, to admit nothing which could compromise the United States in any future wars of Europe—In the negotiations of peace in 1782, I saw stronger reasons than ever before, in favor of that maxim.

The wise and prudent measures adopted by my predecessor, to preserve and support a fair and impartial neutrality, with the belligerent powers of Europe, coinciding with my own opinions and principles, more ancient than the birth of the United States, could not but be heartily approved and supported by me, during his whole administration, and steadily pursued until this time. It was, however, no part of the system of my predecessor, nor is it any article of my creed, that neutrality should be purchased
with

with bribes, by the sacrifice of our sovereignty, and the abandonment of our independence, by the surrender of our moral character, by tarnishing our honor, by violations of public faith, or by any means humiliating to our own national pride, or disgraceful in the eyes of the world ; nor will I be the instrument of procuring it on such terms.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your candid approbation, and your noble assurances of support.

JOHN ADAMS.



From the INHABITANTS of the Townships of WINDSOR and MONTGOMERY, and the Towns of PRINCETON and KINGSTON, to the PRESIDENT, the SENATE, and House of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

LEGISLATORS, AND RULERS
OF AMERICA,

AT an interesting crisis, like the present, you will naturally be solicitous to be sincerely possessed of the public sentiment, and to know to what point you may depend on the cheerful and zealous co-operation and aid of every citizen, in the energetic measures which you may find it necessary to adopt for the public good.

Although

Although, claiming an equality with you, in your private and individual capacities, as your fellow-citizens—in your representative functions we venerate you as the organs, and respect in your persons the majesty of the laws. We presume not, under the form of resolutions or instructions, to dictate to those to whom we have entrusted the right of judging, and whose situation afford them the best means of forming their decisions with wisdom and an equal regard to the general interests. We have assembled at this important moment, only to pledge to you our loyalty and fidelity. We estimate, at its just value, the precious liberty which we enjoy ; and we feel, with an honest pride, that national dignity, and that self respect which the freest people on earth ought to feel. Americans have broken the yoke of one tyrant, and they will not become the tributaries of another.

We have seen with indignation the depredations committed on our lawful commerce, and the repeated insults offered to our government, whilst it has sought nothing but peace, on just and equitable terms. We have seen, with the disdainful sentiments that become freemen, the late efforts to reduce us to the dependent and degraded state of Milan, or Genoa, or to enslave and dismember us like the miserable republic of Venice. We have seen, with mingled emotions

tions of resentment and contempt, the insolent proposals to exact from us an enormous and incalculable tribute, not only to aid the national interests of France, which though less humiliating, would still be intolerable to a free people, but to maintain the profligacy and vice of her individual, miserable agents—a condition below infamy itself.

LEGISLATORS! RULERS!

WE pledge to you our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor; we will cheerfully submit to every pecuniary burthen you may think it necessary to impose, for the safety and defence of the republic; and the militia of New-Jersey, will, as they have always done, fly at your command, either to repel the invasion of foreign enemies, or to crush the villany of domestic traitors. We pray for peace, while it can be preserved on honorable terms; but trusting in heaven, in our courage, and the justice of our cause, we cannot fear the insolence of any nation. The calamities of war we deprecate; but we hold no calamity to be so great as that of dependence on a foreign power; and no calculation can be made of national honor, except by those who deserve to be *slaves*. A people, who can so far forget themselves, must soon submit to exactions, calculated, not on their ability to pay, but on the wants, the will, and the vices of their tyrants. Our confidence in the wisdom and integrity of
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the Executive of the United States, has always been unshaken and entire, and we find it daily augmented by the developement of events. If divisions have weakened the legislature, and tempted the avarice or ambition of foreign powers to form the most criminal expectations, we trust, hereafter, that unanimity and energy will defeat their unwarrantable views. As far as depends on us, we will refute the slanders that have represented us as a people divided from our government ; we will disappoint those insidious intriguers who are incessantly striving to create a separation, that they may have a pretence for intermeddling in our domestic policy ; and at length an opportunity of enslaving us, as they have done so many other states, by taking under their protection a turbulent faction in the name of the people.

In proportion as the sincerity and humanity of the American people have led them to shew a forbearance, in the pursuit of peace, which has been misconstrued into pusillanimity or a mercenary dereliction of the solid interests and glory of their country, will they, when roused by the injustice of their enemies, display a noble firmness and enterprize in its defence.

Although it belongs not to us to dictate measures to government, it is a privilege which we trust will not be unacceptable to
you

you in this trying juncture, to declare our warm and unequivocal approbation of the wise and temperate system which has hitherto been pursued with regard to our foreign relations, and our undiminished confidence in those who preside over the affairs of the nation with so much wisdom and prudence. We are prepared for every event. If you should deem it necessary to impose a restraint upon foreign commerce, we will cheerfully forego the conveniences of living, which commerce yields. If, on the other hand, you resolve to claim your rights and bravely to defend them, we make not indeed any boastful professions of chaining victory to our arms, but we fear not to meet either in the field or on the ocean, those who have been accustomed to boast.

That the Eternal, who presides in secret over the fate of empires, may preserve the American people, and ever have your Excellency, and you the honorable members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, in his gracious and powerful protection, is the fervent prayer of your respectful fellow-citizens, and the obedient subjects of the laws, the inhabitants and freeholders of the precincts of Princeton and Kingston, and the townships of Montgomery and Windsor, in the State of New-Jersey.

To

*To the INHABITANTS of the Townships of
WINDSOR and MONTGOMERY, and the
Towns of PRINCETON and KINGSTON.*

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR dutiful and loyal address to the President, Senate, and House of Representatives, was presented in its season, with express information that no answer was expected; although for this reason, I have hitherto neglected to answer it, I must say, that no address has deserved or received a more respectful and affectionate attention.

If the veneration you profess, for the representatives of the nation, and the organs of the public judgment and will, are not just, where is, or can be the object of public confidence? Where can be found the rule of action for the citizen? There can be no alternative between this and anarchy:—every man, the foolish as well as the wise, the wicked as well as the just, doing what is right in his own eyes; and we know that in such a case, the *bad* being under no restraint of conscience, will have the advantage of the *good*, who can permit themselves to do no wrong. The very modern history of the last twelve years, has abundantly illustrated the proverb, that anarchy does more mischief in one night than even tyranny itself in ten years; what is the difference then between anarchy and good government?

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The pledge of your fidelity is received with pleasure ; the estimate of the precious liberty you enjoy, is candid and honorable ; the honest pride you feel in the national dignity, is a bulwark of defence and safety to the state ; the depredations committed on our commerce, the cruelties to our seamen, the insults to our government, the contempt of our ambassadors, could have originated in nothing but a fixed opinion that the United States were like the rotten republics of Europe, ropes of sand, decayed timbers of old ships, to be shaken to atoms by the smallest agitation.

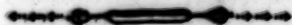
The pledge of your lives, fortunes and your sacred honor, ought to convince that our republic is still sound ; domestic traitors will be found to be very few ; trusting in Heaven, in your own courage and the justice of your cause, you need not fear any insolent menaces.

Calculations of the value of national honor, in Eagles, Dollars and Cents, have been lately found by the republics of Europe, the most extravagant and fatal of all speculations, and the surest road to bankruptcy and ruin. Wills, wants and vices, have been found to exceed all calculations. Your confidence in the executive authority deserves my thanks—unanimity and energy are taking place of divisions every where, and will defeat

defeat the unwarrantable projects against us. Infidious intriguers will soon find no turbulent faction to take under their protection.

I thank you for the excellent temper, principles and sentiments displayed in this address, and join you sincerely in prayers to the Eternal, who presides over the fates of empires, that he may preserve the American people.

JOHN ADAMS.

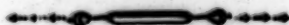


From the CITIZENS of the Townships of AMWELL, READINGTON, and KINGWOOD, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE should do violence to the respect and loyalty we possess for our first magistrate, and the attachment, love and veneration which we entertain for our constitution and cherish for our country, were we to remain silent when our honor is insulted, our interests injured and our national rights violated; we profess, Sir, that we once were attached to the French nation, and anxiously wished that they might accomplish the *avowed* object of their revolution; but, Sir, we never will permit our zeal for any nation to induce us to lose sight of the honor, interest, dignity and freedom of our own country. We have maturely considered the attempts
you

you have made to preserve an honorable peace with the French republic; and we have with pain seen their effect. We approve of and admire the pacific disposition, the wisdom, the dignified love of country and the liberal policy discoverable in your instructions to our envoys extraordinary; and we most heartily despise the corrupt, the servile, and the tributary conditions, offered to us by the agents of the Directory. Sir, we are not divided from our government—we highly approve of the administration of it—and we will with our property and services, support it, and every act of our constituted authorities, in defiance of the threats or power of any nation on earth.



To the CITIZENS of the Townships of AMWELL, READINGTON, and KINGWOOD.

GENTLEMEN,

THE respect you profess for your first magistrate is obliging to him, and your attachment, love and veneration for your constitution and country, will be amiable in the eyes of all men.

The attachment you profess for the French nation was common to you, and to America in general; but never was the attachment of one nation to another so wantonly, capriciously, so insolently despised
and

and thrown away. All great things have begun in contempt—the Roman empire—the French republic—and to rise infinitely higher than both for an example, the Christian religion itself might be cited: Our American world exhibits another instance—but mark the issue;—this contempt will be changed into respect and admiration, and I hope to live to see the time and to rejoice with you in it.

JOHN ADAMS.

*From the whole of the SOLDIER CITIZENS
of NEW-JERSEY, to the PRESIDENT of
the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

THE Commander in Chief, the General Officers, the General Staff and Field-Officers of the militia of the State of New-Jersey, feel, in common with their numerous fellow-citizens, who have addressed you in the present critical situation of our nation, and most cordially join them in expressing to you their high approbation of your conduct in the management of its foreign concerns, and their indignation at the insult offered to the honor and independence of the American people.

We come not, Sir, to dictate—whether peace can be preserved with the safety of
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our national dignity, or whether an appeal is to be made to arms, are questions entrusted to those in whose patriotism we confide, and according to their decision we shall always be prepared to act. But, Sir, at this eventful period, we deem it our duty, and we feel it a pleasure, respectfully to approach our Commander in Chief, and to make him a solemn proffer of our lives and fortunes in the service of our country.

It is not, Sir, for soldiers to boast : but we know the troops whom we have the honor to command—we have been eye-witnesses to their ardent zeal in the cause of freedom---we have been their companions in many toils and many sufferings, and if our beloved country calls, we shall again cast the eye of confidence along their embattled ranks.

Let our enemies flatter themselves that we are a divided people.—In New-Jersey, Sir, with the exception of a few *degraded* and a few *deluded* characters, to whose persons, and to whose services the invading foe shall be welcome, from the moment of their arrival, and whom we engage to convey in safety to their lines—In New-Jersey, Sir, there is but *one voice*—and that is the voice of confidence in the Federal Government---the voice of perfect satisfaction with your administration of it --and the voice of firmness and determination to support the laws
and

and constitution, the honor and dignity of the United States ; and, Sir, for the defence of these, we do this day, in the presence of the God of armies, and in firm reliance on his protection, solemnly pledge to you, our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.



To the SOLDIER CITIZENS of NEW-JERSEY.
GENTLEMEN,

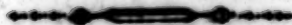
AMONG all the numerous addresses which have been presented to me, in the present critical situation of our nation, there has been none which has done me more honor, none animated with a more glowing love of our country, or expressive of sentiments more determined and magnanimous. The submission you avow to the civil authority, an indispensable principle in the character of warriors in a free government, at the same moment when you make a solemn proffer of your lives and fortunes in the service of your country, is highly honorable to your dispositions as citizens and soldiers, and proves you perfectly qualified for the duties of both characters.

Officers and soldiers of New-Jersey, have as little occasion as they have disposition to boast. Their country has long boasted of their ardent zeal in the cause of freedom, and their invincible intrepidity in the day of battle.

Your

Your voice of confidence and satisfaction, of firmness and determination to support the laws and constitution of the United States, has a charm in it irresistible to the feelings of every American bosom ; but, when in the presence of the God of armies, and in firm reliance on his protection, you solemnly pledge your lives and fortunes, and your sacred honor ; you have recorded words which ought to be indelibly imprinted in the memory of every American youth. With these sentiments in the hearts, and this language in the mouths of Americans in general, the greatest nation may menace at its pleasure, and the degraded and the deluded characters may tremble, lest they should be condemned to the severest punishment an American can suffer---that of being conveyed in safety within the lines of an invading enemy.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE students of the College of New-Jersey, awfully impressed by the threatening clouds which obscure our political horizon, and well aware of the importance of united and vigorous exertions, would offer their feeble, though hearty concurrence, in
applauding

applauding your administration, and supporting the energy of government.

We deem it the duty of every American attached to the freedom and independence of his country, to oppose the aggressions of foreign power ; nor is it less incumbent on those who, though young in years and wisdom, anticipate a period, when they shall be admitted to the privilege of citizenship, zealously to defend their precious inheritance. We hope to manifest to the world, when the rules of our institution will permit, that the youth of Nassau will glory in defending the independence of their fathers.

The national honor of our country, we esteem of incalculable value—Our lives we estimate worthy of preservation only as we enjoy the independence of freemen. We view, with the ardent resentments of youth, the encroachments of foreign nations on our rights. We contemplate, with impatience, their lawless depredations. In common with our countrymen, we lament the necessity of military operations ; yet, urged upon them involuntarily, we confidently trust in Heaven, that the result will be favorable to the cause of freedom and humanity. Our grief arises not from pusillanimity ; it is the offspring of love to our country. Though we dare brave the intrepid attack of the hostile army, we foresee,

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with

with regret, the multiplied calamities that must result from the conflict.

Although but just arisen from our cradles, when the French nation broke the sceptre of despotism, we, Sir, in common with our fathers, caught the flame of enthusiasm, at the prospect of a people enslaved for ages, by a succession of tyrants, at once claiming their indefeasible rights, and nobly daring to assert their freedom. We fondly hoped, that the spirit which created, would conduct the revolution. In this hope we have been disappointed. We have seen the French nation laying aside their first principles of justice, and aiming at universal empire. We have seen them, not satisfied with subjugating or ravaging Europe, cross the Atlantic, insultingly trample on the rights of our neutrality, and despise the faith of the most solemn compacts. We have seen ministers sent by our Executive to accommodate differences. We have seen those ministers insulted, and their friendly offers rejected. At such conduct, we trust, every American feels the warmest sentiments of indignation.

We regard it as a singular mercy of Heaven to our country, at this important crisis, and as one of the surest pledges of our political security, that you are placed at the helm of our affairs. We consider it,

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at the same time, as the reward of your well-tryed patriotism and unshaken firmness.

While therefore, Sir, we express our highest approbation of the conduct of the Executive of the United States, in the attempts to negotiate with the French republic, we would also, with ardor, and we trust with the modesty which becomes our years, declare our confidence in the constituted authorities of our country. The choice of the people, we know, will defend their rights and privileges. To us there appears no mean of averting the storm; but we declare we are ready to dedicate our lives to fatigues and dangers in braving it.

May you long continue to watch over the safety and order of the community, and may our fellow-citizens never cease to testify their liveliest gratitude for the eminent services you have rendered them.



*To the STUDENTS of NEW-JERSEY COL-
LEGE.*

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for your well-judged and well-penned address, which has been presented to me by one of your senators in Congress, from New-Jersey, Mr. Stockton.

To an high-spirited youth, possessed of that self-respect and self-esteem, which is inseparable

table from conscious innocence and rectitude, whose bodies are not enervated by irregularities of life; whose minds are not weakened by dissipation or habits of luxury; whose natural sentiments are improved and fortified by classical studies, the aggressions of a foreign power must be disgusting and odious: on these facts alone, I could answer for the youth of Nassau, that they will glory in defending the independence of their fathers.

The honor of your country, you cannot estimate too highly; reputation is of as much importance to nations, in proportion, as to individuals; honor is an higher interest than reputation; the man, or the nation, without attachment to reputation or honor, is undone:—What is animal life, or national existence, without either?

The regret with which you view the encroachments of foreign nations, the impatience with which you contemplate their lawless depredations, are perfectly natural, and do honor to your characters.

If regrets would avert the necessity of military operations, it would be well to indulge them; but, if the entire prosperity of a state depends upon the discipline of its armies, a maxim much respected by your fathers, you may hereafter be convinced that the cause of your country and of mankind

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kind may be promoted by meant, which, from love to your country and a fear to set at defiance the laws of nature, you now see cause to regret.

The flame of enthusiasm which you, in common with your fathers, caught at the French revolution, could have been enkindled only by the innocence of your hearts and the purity of your intentions. Let me, however, my amiable and accomplished young friends, entreat you to study the history of that revolution; the history of France during the periods of the League and the Fronde, and the history of England from 1640 to 1660. In these studies you may perhaps find a solution of your disappointment in your hopes that the spirit which created, would conduct the revolution: you may find that the good intended by fair characters, from the beginning, was defeated by Borgias and Catalines; that these fair characters themselves were inexperienced in freedom, and had very little reading in the science of government; that they were altogether inadequate to the cause they embraced, and the enterprize in which they embarked. You may find that the moral principles, sanctified and sanctioned by religion, are the only bond of union, the only ground of confidence of the people in one another, of the people in the government, and the government in the people. Avarice,

rice, ambition and pleasure, can never be the foundations of reformati^ons or revolutions for the better. These passions have dictated the aim at universal domination, trampled on the rights of neutrality, despised the faith of solemn compact, insulted ambassadors, and rejected offers of friendship.

It is to me a flattering idea, that you place any of your hopes of political security in me—mine are placed in your fathers and you; and my advice to both is, to place your confidence, under the favor of Heaven, in yourselves.

Your approbation of the conduct of government, and confidence in its authorities, are very acceptable: If the choice of the people will not defend their rights, who will? To me there appears no mean of averting the storm, and, in my opinion, we must all be ready to dedicate ourselves to fatigues and dangers.

JOHN ADAMS.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A.

To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a moment when dangers threaten the peace and prosperity of the United States,
when

when foreign insolence and rapine have deeply wounded our national honor, and injured our lawful commerce; it is presumed the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the city of Philadelphia will not be unwelcome—when they come forward to assure you of their perfect approbation of your administration, and their entire confidence in your wisdom, integrity and patriotism. While we admire the prudence and moderation with which our government has received the unprovoked aggressions of France, and the sincerity and equity of your endeavors to conciliate her friendship, we feel the independent pride of Americans in your dignity and firmness. As we are satisfied that nothing has been wanting on your part to preserve to us the blessings of peace and safety, we prepare to meet with fortitude the consequences that may follow the failure of your exertions. Confident that our government has been just and impartial in her dealings with all nations, and grateful for the happiness and prosperity we have enjoyed under it in the days of tranquillity, we do not hesitate to promise it our utmost assistance in the time of difficulty and need.

Presiding over the counsels of your country in a most eventful crisis, we hope and trust you will find a fixed and energetic support in the people of America. Permit us to congratulate you on the prospect of unanimity

nimity that now presents itself to the hopes of every American, and on the spirit of independent patriotism that is rapidly rising into active exertion--and to offer a sincere prayer that while you continue to serve your country with wisdom and fidelity, you may never find her ungrateful.



*To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN and CITIZENS
of the City of PHILADELPHIA.*

GENTLEMEN,

NEVER, as I can recollect, were any class of my fellow-citizens more welcome to me, on any occasion, than the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the city of Philadelphia upon this.

At a time, when all the old republics of Europe are crumbling into dust, and others forming, whose destinies are dubious; when the monarchies of the old world are some of them are fallen, and others trembling to their foundations; when our own infant republic has scarcely had time to cement its strength or decide its own practicable form; when these agitations of the human species have affected our people, and produced a spirit of party which scruples not to go all lengths of profligacy, falsehood and malignity in defaming our government; your approbation and confidence are to me a great consolation.

consolation. Under your immediate observation and inspection, the principal operations of the government are directed; and to you, both characters and conduct must be intimately known.

I am but one of the American people, and my fate and fortune must be decided with theirs. As far as the forces of nature may remain to me, I will not be wanting in my duties to them, nor will I harbor a suspicion that they will fail to afford me all necessary aid and support.

While, with the greatest pleasure, I reciprocate your congratulations on the prospect of unanimity that now presents itself to the hopes of every American, and on that spirit of patriotism and independence that is rising into active exertion in opposition to seduction, domination and rapine, I offer a sincere prayer that the citizens of Philadelphia may persevere in the virtuous course and maintain the honorable character of their ancestors, and be protected from every calamity physical, moral and political.

JOHN ADAMS.

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To

*To the CITIZENS of PHILADELPHIA, the
District of SOUTHWARK, and the NORTH-
ERN LIBERTIES,*
GENTLEMEN,

MANY of the nations of the earth, disgusted with their present governments, seem determined to dissolve them, without knowing what other forms to substitute in their places. An ignorance, with all the cruel intolerance of the most bloody superstitions that ever have existed, is imposing its absurd dogmas by the sword, without the smallest attention to that emulation universal in the human heart, which is a great spring of generous action when wisely regulated, but the never-failing source of anarchy and tyranny when uncontrolled by the constitution of the state. As the United States are a part of the society of mankind, and are closely connected with several nations now struggling in arms, the present period is indeed pregnant with events of the highest importance to their happiness and safety.

In such a state of things, your implicit approbation of the general system, and the particular measures of the government; your generous feelings of resentment at the wrongs and offences committed against it, and at the menaces of others still more intolerable; your candid acknowledgment of the blessings you enjoy under its free and
equal

equal constitution; your determination at every hazard to maintain your freedom and independence, and to support the measures which may be thought necessary to support the constitution, freedom and independence of the United States; do you great honor as patriots and citizens; and your communication of these spirited sentiments to me, deserves my best thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a period so interesting to the United States, permit us to believe that an address from the Youth of Philadelphia, anxious to preserve the honor and independence of their country, will not be unwelcome to their chief magistrate.

Actuated by the same principles on which our forefathers achieved their independence, the recent attempts of a foreign power to derogate from the dignity and rights of our country, awaken our liveliest sensibility, and our strongest indignation.

The Executive of the United States, filled with a spirit of friendship towards the whole world, has resorted to every just and honorable mean of conciliating the affections of
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the French republic, who have received their propositions of peace with determined hostility and contempt ; have wounded our national independence by insulting its representatives ; and calumniated the honor and virtue of our citizens, by insinuating that we are a divided, insubordinate people.

The youth of the American nation will claim some share of the difficulty, danger, and glory of its defence ; and although we do not hold ourselves competent to form an opinion respecting the tendency of every measure, yet we have no hesitation in declaring, that we place the most entire confidence in your wisdom, integrity and patriotism ; that we regard our liberty and independence as the richest portion given to us by our ancestors : that we perceive no difference between the illegal and oppressive measures of one government, and the *insolent* attempts now made to usurp our rights by another ; that as our ancestors have magnanimously resisted the encroachments of the one, we will no less *vigorously* oppose the attacks of the other ; that at the call of our country, we will assemble with promptitude, obey the orders of the constituted authorities with alacrity, and on every occasion act with all the exertion of which we are capable ; and for this we pledge ourselves to you, to our country, and to the world.

To the YOUNG MEN of the City of PHILADELPHIA, the District of SOUTHWARK, and the NORTHERN LIBERTIES.

GENTLEMEN,

NOTHING of the kind could be more welcome to me than this address from the ingenuous Youth of Philadelphia, in their virtuous anxiety to preserve the honor and independence of their country.

For a long course of years, my amiable young friends, before the birth of the oldest of you, I was called to act with your fathers, in concerting measures the most disagreeable and dangerous, not from a desire of innovation, not from discontent with the government, under which we were born and bred, but, to preserve the honor of our country, and vindicate the immemorial liberties of our ancestors: In pursuit of these measures, it became, not an object of predilection and choice, but of indispensable necessity, to assert our independence, which, with many difficulties, and much suffering, was at length secured. I have long flattered myself, that I might be gathered to the ashes of my fathers, leaving unimpaired, and unassailed, the liberties so dearly purchased; and that I should never be summoned, a second time, to act in such scenes of anxiety, perplexity and danger, as war of any kind always exhibits. If my good fortune should

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not:

not correspond with my earnest wishes, and I should be obliged, to act with you, as with your ancestors, in defence of the honor and independence of our country, I sincerely wish that none of you may ever have your constancy of mind and strength of body put to so severe a trial, as to be compelled again in your advanced age to the contemplation and near prospect, of any war of offence or defence.

It would neither be consistent with my character, nor yours, on this occasion, to read lessons to gentlemen of your education, conduct and character; if, however, I might be indulged the privilege of a father, I should, with the tenderest affections, recommend to your serious and constant consideration, that science and morals are the great pillars on which this country has been raised to its present population, opulence and prosperity, and that these alone, can advance, support and preserve it.

Without wishing to damp the ardor of curiosity, or influence the freedom of inquiry, I will hazard a prediction that after the most industrious and impartial researches, the longest liver of you all, will find no principles, institutions, or systems of education, more fit, in general, to be transmitted to your posterity, than those you have received from your ancestors.

No prospect or spectacle, could excite a stronger sensibility in my bosom, than this which now presents itself before me. I wish you all the pure joys, the sanguine hopes, and bright prospects, which are decent at your age, and that your lives may be long, honorable and prosperous, in the constant practice of benevolence to men, and reverence to the Divinity, in a country persevering in liberty, and increasing in virtue, power and glory.

The sentiments of this address, every where expressed in language as chaste and modest, as it is elegant and masterly, which would do honor to the youth of any country, have raised a monument to your fame, more durable than brass or marble.—The youth of all America must exult in this early sample, at the seat of government, of their talents, genius and virtues.

America, and the world, will look to our youth, as one of our firmest bulwarks. The generous claim which you now present of sharing in the difficulty, danger and glory of our defence, is to me and to your country, a sure and pleasing pledge, that your birth-rights will never be ignobly bartered or surrendered: But that you will in your turn, transmit to future generations the fair inheritance, obtained by the unconquerable spirit of your fathers.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

*From the INHABITANTS of the County of
LANCASTER, to the PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

AT this alarming crisis in our political existence, we approach you, Sir, to express our cordial approbation of the measures adopted by the Executive for the preservation of the neutrality and peace of our country. The firm reliance we have had on your patriotism and attachment to the genuine principles of liberty, as guaranteed to us by our excellent constitution, is, if possible, strengthened and enlarged by a policy so congenial with the character of the chief magistrate of a free people.

Whatever may be the real or imaginary pretensions of an ally which derogates from a state of amity, the distinction and honor of the aggressing nation, require an investigation of the supposed infractions of friendship upon the basis of equality. A demand of a preliminary submission acknowledging the commission of an offence—a stipulation for pecuniary compensation anterior to the discussion of the cause of discord, are debasements of national dignity, totally incompatible with the sovereignty and independence of a nation.

Holding these to be self-evident truths, which were nursed in the bosom of freedom,
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can by no means permit to be gain-said—we feel ourselves forcibly drawn to acknowledge to you, a thankfulness for the earnest endeavors you have used in your diplomatic intercourse to cultivate and nourish harmony with the French republic: For the sincere, candid and unequivocal manner with which you have displayed the fair and upright principles of the United States in the proposed negotiation with that republic: And for your nomination (as commissioners to France) of three of our fellow-citizens, whose energy of mind and love of country, have enabled them to resist terms of conciliation degrading to the national character and dishonorable to the government.

If unhappily the United States be driven into hostility by the injustice and insatiate ambition of the French republic, we trust that that benign Being, whose aid in our keenest distresses we have so frequently experienced, will again become auxiliary to the arms of freemen, honestly contending for the liberty and independence of their country. We assure you, Sir, for ourselves personally, that, in such a conflict, no considerations of ease to our estates or safety to our persons, shall deter us from the exertion of every power we possess in the support of government.

We fervently implore the Supreme Disposer of events, to continue your health of
body,

body, fortitude of mind, and mature wisdom, that you may be empowered in your arduous station to lead us through this perilous era, with honor to yourself, and an accession of glory to the American name.



To the INHABITANTS of the County of LANCASTER.

GENTLEMEN,

THIS respectful and affectionate address, from the wealthy, industrious and independent proprietors of the county of Lancaster, is as honorable, as it is agreeable to me, and is returned with my hearty thanks.

The attention you have given to a demand of a preliminary submission, acknowledging the commission of offence, requires an observation on my part. The constitution of the United States makes it my duty to communicate to Congress, from time to time, information of the state of the Union, and to recommend to their consideration, measures which appear to me necessary or expedient. While in discharge of this duty, I submit, with entire resignation, to the responsibility established in the constitution, I hold myself accountable to no crowned head, or Executive Directory, or other foreign power on earth, for the communications which my duty obliges me to make; yet to you, my fellow-citizens, I will freely
say,

say, that, in the case alluded to, the honor done, the publicity and solemnity given to the audience of leave, to a disgraced minister, recalled in displeasure for misconduct, was a studied insult to the government of my country.

The observations made by me, were mild and moderate, in a degree far beyond what the provocation would have justified; and if the American people, or their government, could have borne it without resentment, offered as it was in the face of all the world, they must have been fit to be the tributary dupes they have since been so coolly invited to become.

As I know not where a better choice of envoys could have been made, I thank you for your approbation of their appointment, and applause of their conduct.

In return for your prayers, for my health and fortune, I offer mine for the citizens of Lancaster in particular, and the United States in general.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WHILE the citizens of America, in every part of the Union, are addressing you
with

with expressions of affection and tenders of their services, at this most important crisis; we, the inhabitants of Carlisle and its vicinity, inspired by the same love of our country, and attachment to its best interests, desire also to express our sentiments respecting the affairs of our nation, with becoming freedom. Inheriting liberty as a birthright, and rising above the degrading spirit of colonial dependence, we not only have a character already established as freemen and defenders of our country, but we are resolved to maintain that character at every hazard.

Under a government of our own choice, and the auspices of a wise and just administration, we have enjoyed for a number of years, as great a share of national prosperity and happiness, as has perhaps ever fallen to the lot of any people. Having established a free government, on the solid basis of the general will, we could not but grant that other nations had a right to regulate and manage their own internal concerns in like manner. In their endeavors to this end, we conceived we ought not to interfere, and we wished to enjoy the blessings of neutrality and peace; discharging at the same time all the obligations we might be under to any European power, with the utmost good faith and impartiality.

The measures that have been pursued by the Executive from time to time, to maintain

tain such a state of things, and to preserve us from the evils of war and national degradation, have met and still meet with our hearty approbation. The appointment of envoys extraordinary, for the adjustment of all our differences with France, and the ample powers with which they were vested for this end, manifested the sincerest disposition for peace and justice, and the happiness of both nations ; nor can we consider the treatment which those envoys have received, the demands that have been made of us, and the threats denounced against us if we will not comply with their wishes, without feeling as Americans ought to feel, and resolving that we will cheerfully concur in the support of all measures which shall appear necessary for the national defence, and the maintenance of that freedom and independence which we hold most dear.

While we join with you in humbly soliciting the smiles of Divine Providence on our national affairs, and the blessings of genuine freedom, accept, Sir, of our sincere prayers for your personal happiness.



To the CITIZENS of the Borough of CAR-
LISLE and its vicinity.

GENTLEMEN,

NOTHING could be more obliging
to me or faithful to the public than the unan-
S imous

ymous resolutions and address of the citizens of Carlisle, which have been presented to me by one of your senators in Congress, Mr. Bingham.

When you declare your resolution to maintain your established character, as freemen and members of an independent nation, as your birthright, the world will applaud your wisdom, as well as virtue. When you acknowledge that under a government of your choice, and the auspices of a wise and just administration, you have enjoyed as great a share of national prosperity and happiness, as has perhaps ever fallen to the lot of any people, you do great honor to your government. Nevertheless, I presume there is not a city or a village in the Sixteen States that can contradict you : If there is one, I hope it will assemble and declare it.

When you acknowledge the rights of nations to regulate their own internal concerns, on the solid basis of the general will, you recognize one of the highest prerogatives of man. Like all other prerogatives, however, it ought always to be exerted with wisdom and integrity for the general good ; never for the purposes of private ambition, party views or foreign intrigues.

When you approve the measures of the general government, you deserve its thanks—and your feelings of the unworthy return
of

of insults and menaces, are the feelings of nature approved by reason and justified by the public voice.

In your humble supplications for the smiles of Providence on our national affairs and the blessings of genuine freedom, you will be joined by all good men. Your prayers for my personal happiness are most affecting to me.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the INHABITANTS of BERKS County, to
the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

THE interesting crisis to which the United States are at last driven by the rapacity, wickedness, and ambition of the French government, calls loudly and explicitly upon us to unite in defence of our country; and by displaying that unanimity to the world, to convince our enemies, that the people are not *divided* from their government.

There remains not the least doubt that their project of plundering this part of the globe, is very much strengthened by the fallacious idea that the Executive of the United States hath contravened the wishes and sentiments of the people at large, in his intercourse with foreign nations.

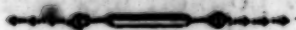
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To repel this false and mischievous calumny as far as lies in our power, by bearing a public and unequivocal testimony in favor of your administration, and especially in behalf of the late attempt to negotiate a treaty of peace with the French nation, is both our motive and apology for intruding on you with this address.

If our situation has become in any degree serious or alarming, we are highly gratified in the reflection it has not proceeded from any want of temperate and judicious measures, on your part, to prevent it.

The relative conduct of the United States and of France, at this eventful period, must form a striking contrast, in the judgment of the candid and discerning part of mankind; and history will hereafter be at a loss which to admire most, the impudent profligacy and exorbitant demands of the French, in order to plunge us into war, or the anxious and unremitted efforts of the United States to avoid it. While we thus express *our* unreserved approbation of the conduct of the first magistrate, we cannot omit the opportunity of declaring, that we have the most entire confidence in your wisdom, integrity, and political fortitude; and that we trust, by the blessings of Heaven, upon the executive and legislative councils of our country, aided by the patriotism of the people, we shall

shall be enabled to support our independence, in defiance of an enemy, who not only spurns at our ministers of peace, but openly avows an intention of compelling us to yield the last farthing ; if, in their boundless ambition, they shall think proper to ask it.



To the INHABITANTS of BERKS County.

GENTLEMEN,

THE public and unequivocal testimony you offer, in favor of my administration, especially in the late attempt to negotiate a treaty of peace with the French nation, deserves my thanks.

I think with you, that history will hereafter be at a loss which to admire most, the anxious and unremitting efforts of the United States to avoid war, or those of the French to plunge us into it.

Your approbation and confidence are equally encouraging, and I trust with you, that by the blessings of Heaven, on the legislative and executive councils of our country, supported by the patriotism of the people, we shall be enabled to preserve our independence.

JOHN ADAMS.

*To the PRESIDENT, the SENATE, and House
of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED
STATES.*

AT a time when the situation of our country has become truly critical, the citizens of Montgomery county, feel it an incumbent duty to join in the general expression of regret that the unreasonable overbearance of a foreign nation should mar the peaceful happiness we enjoy under the best of governments, and that the honorable efforts which have been made use of to preserve our peace, should have failed of the wished for success.

Under such circumstances, permit us to express our satisfaction and full confidence in the constituted authorities of our country, and our determination to support them in the measures which they may find expedient to adopt for the preservation of the peace, honor and independence of our country. Whatever political sentiments we may, as individuals entertain, we trust that on this head there will be but one voice, and that no previous predilections will, under any circumstances, induce us directly or indirectly, to favor the enemies of our country, and of the happy constitution and government under which we live.

To

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To the CITIZENS of MONTGOMERY County.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address to the President, Senate and House of Representatives, has been presented to me by your committee.

The general expressions of regret that the unreasonable overbearance of a foreign nation should mar the peaceful happiness we enjoy under the best of governments, are natural, but will not soften the hearts of our oppressors. It is not in mortals by the most honorable efforts, at all times to command success or preserve peace.

The satisfaction and full confidence you express in the constituted authorities of your country, and your determination to support them, in the measures which they may find expedient to adopt, for the preservation of the peace, honor and independence of our country, are consonant to the character of worthy citizens; and these sentiments are rendered the more exemplary, for the reservation you make of your political sentiments as individuals, and your previous predilections.

JOHN ADAMS.

To

To His Excellency JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE day set apart by the President of the United States, to implore the mercy and benediction of Heaven on our country, the inhabitants of Huntingdon county, consider as a proper occasion to express to His Excellency the President their sentiments on the afflictive and hazardous situation in which the United States are placed.

The inhabitants of this county have considered with an attention its importance demanded, the conduct of this government towards the French republic. And in that review they discover the most sincere and ardent desire on the part of our government to preserve a most strict and honorable neutrality with the world, and to cultivate in an especial manner, peace and harmony with the French nation.

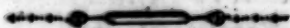
Your instructions to the commissioners to the French nation have evidenced a disposition to remove every cause of complaint, however groundless and frivolous, and to make sacrifices seldom equalled in the history of a people desirous of retaining their sovereignty and independence. These commissioners have not been received, these overtures would not be suffered to be made known,

known, and it is demanded of the American people, to become the tributaries of a foreign nation. The people of this country have been represented by our domestic enemies to our foreign ones, as divided from the government, as dissatisfied with the constitution, the President, and the administration, and as disposed to submit cheerfully, to any imposition the interest or ambition of France might require. For ourselves and our country, and we trust for our State, we pronounce this to be untrue.—Attached to our constitution, confiding in the President and those who administer the affairs of the United States, we now declare our most perfect reliance on our rulers, our most decided approbation of the measures of our public councils, and our determination to support these councils and measures at every risk.

Although we deprecate war as one of the greatest mischiefs, yet we consider submission to the insolent and degrading terms held out as the price of peace, to be one of the greatest indignities that can be offered to a nation, and only the wicked prelude to future insults and demands.

The inhabitants of this county assure you, Sir, that your accession to the Presidential chair, was the warmest wish of their hearts, and that your administration has been such

as they expected—*firm and dignified*, desirous of preserving the peace of this country, yet determined in your hands its honor should not be tarnished, its sovereignty diminished, or its independence destroyed.



To the INHABITANTS of HUNTINGDON
County.
GENTLEMEN,

THE day you selected to express to me your sentiments, on the afflictive and hazardous situation in which the United States are placed, gives them a peculiar solemnity.

When, on that serious day, you declared you discovered in the conduct of government, after an attentive consideration, the most sincere and ardent desire to preserve a strict and honorable neutrality, and to cultivate, in an especial manner, peace and harmony with the French nation, the world will entertain no doubt of your sincerity.

Although, with you, I deprecate *war*, yet I cannot but think that there are many other mischiefs still greater—a depravation of general principle; submission to a restless, insidious, perfidious foreign influence; national dishonor and disgrace, are calamities more deplorable.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

From the INHABITANTS of LUZERNE County, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WHILE we have the utmost confidence in the wisdom, integrity and abilities of those who are constitutionally entrusted with the management of our national concerns, we conceive it would be improper to express an opinion relative to the measures necessary to be taken at this important crisis in our public affairs: but viewing with indignation, the unprovoked, wanton and cruel attack made upon our national rights, by the arbitrary rulers of France, we should deem ourselves unworthy the blessings we enjoy under our free and happy government, should we remain silent.

The repeated insults offered our government, and the continued depredations committed on American property, by the French nation—the mean and degrading terms they hold out, as the only basis on which they will negotiate—and above all, their base insinuations that the people of America are so abandoned that they will tamely submit to, and even justify such outrages on their property, and such indignities to their government; are sufficient to excite the abhorrence and awaken the energy of every true American.

The

The voice of our fellow-citizens addressed to you from various parts of the United States, on this momentous occasion, affords us a pleasing consolation ; while it evinces a degree of union and firmness that may preserve our country from further degradation.

Permit us to express our sincere regret, that every overture consistent with the dignity of our government, has been tried in vain for the amicable adjustment of our difference with France and for the attainment of peace. While we reflect, that the inhabitants of this place have not been exempted from the severest sufferings which war inflicts, we have reason to appreciate the blessings of peace ; but we can never consent to purchase peace at the expense of our national honor and sovereignty. With these impressions, we do most solemnly pledge ourselves to the extent of our abilities and at the risk of our lives, to support such measures as have been, or may be adopted by the Executive of our government, to preserve inviolate our independence and national dignity, and to protect our civil and religious rights.

To the INHABITANTS of LUZERNE County.
GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Sitgreaves.

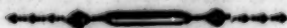
The

The arts and address, deception and seduction which have been employed for so many years to divide us, are likely to end in our more perfect union.

If *your* experience of the severest sufferings which war inflicts, cannot intimidate you to purchase peace at the expense of national honor and sovereignty, there is not another place in the United States which ought not to blush at the idea.

The solemn pledge of yourselves at the risk of your lives, and to the extent of your abilities to support the measures of government, to preserve inviolate our national dignity, must be confided in by all who know any thing of your history.

JOHN ADAMS.



From the Commissioned OFFICERS of the MILITIA, the TROOP of HORSE, and the CITIZENS of WESTMORELAND County, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

SIR,

WHEN the government and existence of the United States, as an independent nation, are threatened by a domineering foreign power, whose ambition, insolence and rapacity are almost unexampled in civilized
T times,

times, it appears to be an important duty in the citizens to avow their detestation of the vile attempt.

The people of America at first viewed the cause of France with emotions of favorable regard ; but the relative situation of their country, and the wish of cultivating peace with all mankind, coinciding with that state of neutrality which they owed to other allies and friendly powers in Europe, determined their Executive, at an early period of the contest, to adopt an impartial conduct, of which none could justly complain. That policy has uniformly met with the approbation of the legislature, and received the concurrence of all good and well informed citizens. This moderation on the part of the government, the supplies afforded by them to France and her colonies at critical periods, and the general approbation by the citizens, who on many occasions favored her cause, have, since the intoxication produced by conquest, been returned with depredations, injuries and insults, without the colour of right or rational excuse. It is no small satisfaction, however, to observe that all the perfidious machinations of the rulers in that country, to sow divisions among the people of this, and to induce distrust of their own administration, have only contributed to cement the union, and call forth the expression of that independent and manly spirit to
oppose

oppose their enemies, without which the name of liberty is but a delusive sound.

Your services, Sir, in the cause of your country, in spite of all that calumny could devise to cast a veil over them, have placed you in the distinguished station you now hold. Your experience has sufficiently taught you that malice and injustice will ever exert their rage against their opposite virtues; but that Providence, ever just and righteous, though his ways may not be traced, finally crowns with his blessing the patriotic efforts of those who steadily pursue the public weal. That you, and all to whom the functions of authority in these United States are committed, may be immoveable in that pursuit, and that your labors may meet with the decided countenance and support of all true Americans, to the confusion of their open as well as private enemies, is the sincere hope and desire of a general meeting of the commissioned officers of the militia of Westmoreland county, of the troop of horse, and of a numerous assemblage of citizens, at Greensburgh, on the anniversary of the independence of the United States.

They also beg leave to add the assurance of their respect for your official character, and best wishes for your individual welfare; as well as of their determination to oppose the enemies of their government and country in every shape.

To

To the Commissioned OFFICERS of the MILITIA, the TROOP of HORSE, and the CITIZENS of WESTMORELAND County.

GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVE, with peculiar pleasure, this address from Westmoreland county, which has been presented to me by Mr. Sitgreaves.

It is not surprising that the people of America, at first, viewed the cause of France with favorable regards; a considerable portion of Europe felt the same emotions, and awful indeed have been the calamities brought on several nations by the deception. Let us learn wisdom by their misfortunes!

Our system of neutrality was dictated by prudence, justice and humanity; it has been continued until we were forced out of it by such treatment as never was before offered by one nation to another, and patiently borne.

The intoxication produced by conquest, was never more extravagant. It has opened the eyes of the dissenters, the republicans, and even the opposition in England. It is a high satisfaction to observe, that all the perfidious machinations to sow divisions among the people of this country, and to induce a distrust of their own administration, have contributed to cement the union, and

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and call forth the expression of an independent and manly spirit.

The obliging manner in which you are pleased to take notice of my services, demands my thanks ; and I return your kind wishes for my individual welfare, with great sincerity.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a time when the minds of men are so intoxicated with ideas of reform, and visionary schemes for meliorating the condition of humanity, as to be fatally inattentive to their own security, and regardless of considerations which have hitherto been deemed the most sacred and obligatory ; there may be a propriety in the declaration of sentiments, which, in more settled times, might at least be thought superfluous. From the generality also of the practice of expressing approbation of the measures of government, at the present crisis, motives might be attached to the omission of it, less honorable than a disinclination to intrude upon the managers of the public concerns, or a reluctance to suppose that, in the resistance of outrage and maintenance of national independence, they would not receive the support

port of the virtuous and unprejudiced part of the community.

Under these impressions, we, the subscribers, inhabitants of the borough of Harriſburgh, beg leave to declare, that we are too highly ſenſible of the proſperity we enjoy, to be willing to relinquish it without an effort for its preſervation ; and that, in our wiſhes for the happineſs of others, we have not loſt ſight of our country and ourſelves. — That, in our opinion, the conduct and deſigns of the French republic (ſcarcely aggravated or made more apparent by the proſſigacy of their avowal) are ſuch as to produce alarm and indignation in every breaſt which feels for the honor and happineſs of America, and to excite the apprehenſions of every man, of whatever nation or country, who may place a ſenſe of juſtice, morality, and piety, among the ornaments of his nature and the bleſſings of ſociety— That, under this perſuaſion, we hold it wiſe to be prepared for every event, and ſhall therefore moſt cheerfully acquieſce in ſuch meaſures of defence, as may be adopted by you, Sir, and the other branches of the adminiſtration, at the preſent momentous period. And as your paſt conduct has invariably commanded the reſpect and approbation of every ingenuous mind, ſo we have the moſt perfect reliance that, in future, it will continue to be influenced by the pureſt motives

motives and clearest perceptions of the public good.

We beg you to accept our cordial wishes for your personal welfare and happiness.



*To the INHABITANTS of the Borough of
HARRISBURGH.*

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address has been presented to me by Mr. Hartley, Mr. Sitgreaves, and Mr. Hanna, three of your representatives in Congress.

I know not which to admire most, the conciseness, the energy, the elegance, or profound wisdom of this excellent address.

Ideas of reformation, and schemes for meliorating the condition of humanity, should not be discouraged, when proposed with reason and pursued with moderation; but the rage for innovation, which destroys every thing because it is established, and introduces absurdities, the most monstrous, merely because they are new; was never carried to such a pitch of madness in any age of the world, as in this latter end of the boasted eighteenth century, and never produced effects so horrible upon suffering humanity.

Among all the appearances, portentous of evil, there is none more incomprehensible
than

than the professions of republicanism among those who place not a sense of justice, morality, or piety, among the ornaments of their nature and the blessings of society. As nothing is more certain and demonstrable than that free republicanism cannot exist without these ornaments and blessings, the tendency of the times is rapid towards a restoration of the petty military despotisms of the feudal anarchy, and by their means a return to the savage state of barbarous life.

How can the press prevent this, when all the presses of a nation, and indeed of many nations at once, are subject to an imprimatur, by a veto upon pain of confiscation, banishment, or confiscation?

That America may have the glory of arresting this torrent of error, vice and imposture, is my fervent wish; and if sentiments, as great as those from Harrisburgh, should be found universally to prevail, as I doubt not they will, my hopes will be as sanguine as my wishes.

JOHN ADAMS.

From

From the PEOPLE of POTT'S TOWN and its vicinity, in MONTGOMERY County, to JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE have been accustomed to observe in silence, though not with indifference, those political occurrences which affect the happiness and prosperity of our country. The present eventful crisis, however, imposes on us a new duty, and we comply with its obligation with cheerfulness in expressing to you, the first officer of our government, those sentiments with which we are at present actuated.

We assure you, therefore, that we have cordially approved of the firm, yet temperate system adopted by the Executive in its intercourse with the government of the French republic. With anxious solicitude we have awaited the event of these overtures dictated by a spirit of dignified forbearance, and conducted with the firmness of conscientious integrity, which have been made with a view to an amicable adjustment of the differences between the two countries.— But, Sir, though we desired an adjustment upon terms compatible with the honor and dignity of the United States, upon those terms only, we desired it, and we have seen,
with

with inexpressible indignation, the infamous attempts which have been made upon the integrity of our government, by threatening the peace and happiness of our country, unless preserved at the price of national degradation.

With the virtuous spirit, therefore, of republicans, we join, we trust, the general voice, in rejecting with disdain the ignominious alternative ; resolved to preserve inviolate, at the sacrifice, if necessary, of property and life, the honor and independence of our country, and to leave them unsullied, a sacred deposit with our posterity.

While a review of the measures of your administration impresses us with a sense of your wisdom and firmness, it inspires us with a confidence that you will not surrender any of the rights of the nation, and that its interest and happiness will still continue the object of your meritorious exertions.



To the PEOPLE of POTT'S TOWN and its vicinity, in the County of MONTGOMERY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE live in times, when it is almost impossible to observe with indifference, or in silence, those political occurrences, which affect the happiness and prosperity of our country.

The

The cordial approbation and respect you avow of the firm and temperate system, adopted by the executive authority of government, in its intercourse with the government of the French republic, is very satisfactory : You desired an adjustment upon terms compatible with the honor and dignity of the United States, and upon these terms only : You have seen, with inexpressible indignation, the infamous attempts which have been made upon the integrity of our government, by threatening the peace and happiness of your country, unless preserved at the price of national degradation : You resolve to preserve inviolate, at the sacrifice of life and property, the honor and independence of your country, and to leave them unsullied, a sacred deposit with posterity : and in declaring these sentiments to the world, you have deserved well of your country.

Your confidence that I will not surrender the rights of the nation, shall not be betrayed : If the nation were capable of such a surrender, which it is not, some other hand must affix the signature to the ignominious deed.

JOHN ADAMS.

To

228 P A T R I O T I C

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE the subscribers being a joint committee on the part of respectable meetings of the inhabitants of the towns of Sunbury and Northumberland, and the vicinities thereof, holden for the purpose of expressing their sentiments of the measures pursued by our government, with respect to France, and to declare to you their unanimous determination to support all the constituted authorities of the United States ; beg leave to observe, that although among the last to address you at this important era of our national independence, yet not the least affectionate. Uninfluenced and almost unacquainted with the common forms used on occasions of this kind, we shall speak the language of our hearts, in the style of a free people to their first magistrate, and assure you, that it is with admiration and pleasure we have beheld your conduct since called to the important office you now fill, evidencing the strongest attachment to the interest of your fellow-citizens, by resisting with a firmness and dignity becoming the father of freemen, the intrigues of an artful and perfidious nation, tending as we conceive, not only to involve us in war, but to the destruction of that government whose salutary regulations we experience as daily blessings.

We

We cannot but lament as men, and as citizens, that a nation, once the friend and ally of America, once her supporter in the hour of danger, should be so changed and fallen ; at a time when she declared to the world that her object was to establish a free government, she had our warmest wishes for success ; but we view her now as a nation whose predominant passion is power, trampling on all those principles which assimilate man to his Maker, boldly attempting to colonize the world and render every part of it subservient to her views ! We see her in fact as a Mount *Ætna*, casting from her, principles which have a tendency to consume religion, virtue and liberty. Her treatment to this country, we conceive is unparalleled in the history of civilized nations ; she has wantonly committed depredations on our commerce, and almost destroyed our trade, without cause, and without provocation ; her complaints of the treaty, made between Great Britain and this country, we consider as the wicked pretence for plunder and piracy.

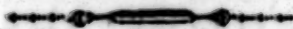
When we reflect on the wisdom, mildness, and prudence which have marked every step taken by you, as the head of our government, to effect an amicable adjustment of all differences, and to obtain a recompense for the injuries our fellow-citizens have sustained, our hearts glow with love and affection

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tion for you, while they burn with indignation at the treatment received from the French government :—It is with pleasure that we assure you that the publication of your instructions to our envoys, and their dispatches, have been attended with the happiest effects ; all the respectable yeomanry of our country are now united in the support of our government and its measures. We tender our services and purses to our government, to support it in any system of defence it may think proper to adopt. We are attached to peace, but it is the peace of freemen, and we shudder at the idea of sacrificing our independence for the permission of any nation on earth, to remain in quietude on our farms.

Our sincerest wishes for your health, and happiness, attend you ; and we pray the great Disposer of human events to continue to bless and endow you with wisdom and fortitude to govern us, in this hour of difficulty.



To the INHABITANTS of the Towns of SUNBURY and NORTHUMBERLAND, and their vicinity.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received from the hand of Colonel Hubley, your address, by your committee.

When

When you observe, that, although among the last to address me, at this important crisis, you are not the least affectionate ; when you assure me it is with pleasure you have beheld my conduct, since called to the important office I now hold, evidencing the strongest attachment to the interest of my fellow-citizens, becoming the father of freedom ; when you assure me, that your hearts glow with love and affection for me, while they burn with indignation at the treatment received from the French government,—you touch the tender sensibilities of my heart, and excite my warmest gratitude.

I wish it were in my power to soften the colours of your picture of those who injure and insult us.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT *of the*
UNITED STATES *of AMERICA.*

SIR,

ON the birth-day of the United States, and at an era the most interesting that has occurred since their existence as a nation, the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati desire most respectfully to congratulate and address you.

As a portion of that band, whose best efforts were employed to establish the sovereignty

eighty and independence of our country, we come, in the moment of impending hostility, to offer the remnant of our lives to defend them.

The rights and privileges of America were not purchased with the best blood of her citizens, to be ingloriously surrendered on the requisition of a foreign power.

No, Sir, the spirit which procured, survives to protect them—And we rejoice to behold that spirit pre-eminently displayed in the firm, virtuous and dignified conduct of the federal chief magistrate. Our citizens of all ages are emulous of this illustrious example; the exertions of our youth declare that they have not degenerated, and afford an unquestionable assurance that their noble inheritance will be preserved unimpaired, and transmitted inviolate to posterity.

The government of France, abandoning every principle on which their revolution was predicated, has exhibited a spirit of despotism unexampled in the history of nations.

After perpetrating the most unprovoked and unjustifiable wrongs against the people of the United States, their rulers have rejected the reiterated advances of our government towards an explanation of differences; they have spurned our messengers of peace, and they have superadded insult to injury, in the exaction of an ignominious
tribute

tribute, which they hoped to extort by base intrigue, or to enforce by imperious menace.

As Americans, and as men, having a common interest in the welfare of the world, we rejoice that these outrages against its happiness have been resisted.

To the prudence, moderation and liberality of those measures of your administration, Sir, which we are convinced were sincerely directed to the attainment of an honorable peace, we render the approbation of citizens who justly appreciate that desirable position. To your vigilance and virtue, which have detected and repelled the attempts of avarice and ambition, on the part of the French government, against the United States, we offer the tribute of an higher applause. We desire to express the esteem and gratitude of citizens, who hold every consideration as secondary to the sovereignty and independence of our country—for the maintenance of which, and in support of every measure of our government that may be deemed necessary to protect the persons, privileges and property of our citizens, we do hereby pledge to you the solemn assurance of our utmost exertions.

*To the PENNSYLVANIA STATE SOCIETY
of the CINCINNATI.*

GENTLEMEN,

THIS respectful address, from gentlemen of your long experience, high rank, and authority in society, and eminent services to the nation, does me great honor.

On the return of this auspicious anniversary at an era the most interesting, I beg leave to reciprocate your kind congratulations—the fundamental and immutable principles of your society, requiring an incessant attention to preserve inviolate those rights and liberties of human nature, for which you have fought and bled, and an unalterable determination to promote and cherish between the respective States that union and national honor so essentially necessary to their happiness, and the dignity of the American republic, were never more indispensable in all classes of citizens, or becoming your characters, than at this time—as a portion of that band, whose efforts were employed to establish the sovereignty of the United States, you, who have enjoyed the work of your own arms, and the fruits of a righteous and glorious war, must have viewed with inexpressible pleasure, the increasing prosperity and greatness of your country. You must now see, your tranquillity disturbed, and your independence threatened, with indignation

dignation and contempt—the spirit which first asserted the sovereignty of this country, survives to maintain it, and your acknowledgment of some remaining portion of that spirit in the federal chief magistrate, is very honorable to him.

As it is but too manifest that unlawful depredations on our commerce will be continued, as long as it shall remain unprotected, so it is equally clear that all hopes of accommodation are at an end, until you and your associates throughout the Union, at the head of the rising generation, who are worthy to succeed you, shall have drawn your swords, once more in the cause of your country, and defended its just rights and sovereignty by your utmost exertions.

I pray you to accept of my best wishes for your health and long life, and that your latter days may be crowned with laurels, as unfading as the former.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE students of Dickinson College, assembled again after the usual vacation, embrace the earliest opportunity of making a public and explicit declaration of their sentiments

timents and resolutions at this important crisis.

Believing that unanimity is of infinite importance to the citizens of these States, and that the most unequivocal proofs of such unanimity should be now given by the citizens at large ; we, the pupils of a seminary, in which we are taught highly to prize our own government and all the blessings of liberty and law, feel it our indispensable duty to cast in our mite into the treasury of public sentiments.

It cannot be supposed that youths of our standing can be deeply versed in political disquisitions ;—yet we know what *liberty* means ; we can in some measure estimate the importance of *national dignity* and *independence* ; and we cannot be ignorant of facts which are known to all the world.

We are sensible that we live under one of the most free and happy governments that has ever existed ; and we also know, that we are indebted, under the smiles of Heaven, to the virtue and patriotism of our fathers, for the blessings we enjoy. We trust that we inherit their spirit, and shall always imitate their noble example.

Confiding in the wisdom and integrity of our rulers, and trusting that their aim has ever been to preserve this country from any participation in the convulsions of Europe,
we

we join with our fellow-citizens in approving and applauding the measures that have been pursued to maintain a state of neutrality and peace.

But what do we hear,—proclaimed by the highest authority?—That a nation, whom we were taught from our earliest years to call our friends, intoxicated with their victories, and apparently grasping at universal empire, says, ‘We shall no longer be a neutral power; that we must retract our complaints of their hostile measures and become in fact their tributaries, before they will admit our envoys to an audience.’ Such language and demands cannot fail to rouse the indignant spirit of Americans, and create an indissoluble union of all, both old and young, in the common cause. The yielding of a single point, in obedience to unjust and imperious requisitions, would, in our opinion, be to surrender our independence:—for a tame submission to one insult would only invite a repetition; till we should at length become a most degraded people, and our name, as a nation, be blotted from the records of time.

While such terms of peace and reconciliation are urged by the minister of France, the organ of the Directory, as appear to our government to be inadmissible, and the depredations on our commerce still continue
and

and increase, we conceive that to neglect the means of self-defence, would be highly criminal, and evidence a most abject spirit. If there be any among us who would still plead the cause of France, and attempt to paralyse the efforts of our government, they ought to be esteemed our greatest enemies.

For our part, we reject with abhorrence every idea of submission to the will of a foreign power, and shall cheerfully leave the pleasing walks of science, when the voice of our country calls, to repel every attack upon our rights, liberty and independence.

To you, Sir, we look up with confidence, as the patron of science, liberty and religion; rejoicing to find that in every thing which flows from your pen, you consider these as the choicest blessings of humanity, which have an inseparable union, and without whose joint influence no society can be great, flourishing and happy.

While we ardently pray that the American republic may always rise superior to her enemies, and transmit the pure principles of liberty to the latest ages, we join at the same time, with the millions of America, in beseeching Heaven to bestow its choicest blessings on our beloved President.

To

To the STUDENTS of DICKINSON COLLEGE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received from the hand of one of your senators in Congress, Mr. Bingham, your public and explicit declaration of your sentiments and resolutions, at this important crisis, in an excellent address.

Although it ought not to be supposed, that young gentlemen of your standing should be deeply versed in political disquisitions, because your time has been occupied in the pursuit of the elements of science and literature in general, yet the feelings of nature are a sure guide in circumstances like the present. I need not, however, make this apology for you ; few addresses, if any, have appeared, more correct in principle, better arranged and digested, more decent and moderate, better reasoned and supported, or more full, explicit and determined.

Since the date of your address, a fresh instance of the present spirit of a nation, or its government, whom you have been taught to call your friends, has been made public : two of your envoys have been ordered out of the republic---Why ? answer this for yourselves my young friends. A third has been permitted or compelled to remain---Why ? to treat of loans, as preliminary to an audience, as the French government understands it---to wait for further orders, as
your

your envoy conceives. Has any sovereign of Europe ever dictated to your country the person she should send as ambassador? Did the monarchy of France, or any other country, ever assume such a dictatorial power over the sovereignty of your country? Is the republic of the United States of America, a fief of the republic of France? It is a question, whether even an equitable treaty, under such circumstances of indecency, insolence and tyranny, ought ever to be ratified by an independent nation—there is however, no probability of any treaty, to bring this question to a decision.

If there are any who still plead the cause of France, and attempt to paralyse the efforts of your government, I agree with you, they ought to be esteemed our greatest enemies. I hope that none of you, but such as feel a natural genius and disposition to martial exercise and exertions, will ever be called from the pleasing walks of science, to repel any attack upon your rights, liberties and independence.

When you look up to me, with confidence, as the patron of science, liberty and religion, you melt my heart. These are the choicest blessings of humanity—they have an inseparable union; without their joint influence, no society can be great, flourishing or happy.

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While I ardently pray that the American republic may always rise superior to her enemies, and transmit the purest principles of liberty to the latest ages, I beseech Heaven to bestow its choicest blessings on the governors and students of your college, and all other seminaries of learning in America.

JOHN ADAMS.

DELAWARE.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

A NUMBER of the Officers of the Militia of Newcastle county, in the State of Delaware, impressed with the importance of the present crisis of public affairs, to the happiness and independence of the United States; and conceiving that the unjust and imperious conduct of the republic of France toward America, has been dictated in a great measure by the unfounded misrepresentations of her own agents, and some misguided and deluded citizens of this country, that the people and the government were divided and opposed to each other; we feel ourselves constrained by every consideration of duty to the constituted authorities, to ourselves, and to our country, to repel the in-

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sinuation which thus attempts to dishonor the American character.

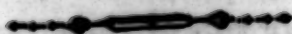
Appreciating with due estimation, the advantages of neutrality and the blessings of peace, we have beheld with pleasure and entire satisfaction your earnest and repeated endeavors, and those of your predecessor, to preserve this desirable position ; and we have seen with equal regret, that the anxious advances of our government to a restoration of harmony with the French republic, have been received with contemptuous disregard on their part ; and at the moment when negotiation ought to have produced redress, aggression has been increased, and further depredations authorized, under the vain hope of inducing a compliance with the wretched demands of avarice and corruption.

Little does France understand the American character in supposing we are to be frightened into mean compliances, by holding up to our view her dependent allies, a degraded Genoa, or a dismembered Venice. The picture raises just indignation in the minds of freemen, and will stimulate their exertions to avoid a similar fate.

With pain do we discover in the infancy of the French government, pretending to be a free republic, and founded upon the rights of man, the evidence of an active corruption

ruption that would degrade the most profligate tyranny—Fortunate for America! the ocean separates her from this seat of contagion, whose influence is destructive of all morals—and long may she enjoy under your prudent and wise administration, that happiness and prosperity which is the reward of public virtue and integrity.

Be assured, Sir, of our grateful approbation of the conduct heretofore pursued by you, to preserve peace and friendship with foreign powers; and our confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of every branch of the government; and we pledge ourselves as citizens and soldiers, firmly to support those measures which may hereafter be thought necessary to secure the constitution, freedom and independence of the United States.



To the OFFICERS of the MILITIA of NEW-CASTLE County.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address, which has been presented to me, in your behalf, by your senators and representatives in Congress, expresses sentiments and resolutions, well becoming the characters of Officers of the Militia, the object of whose institution is, the maintenance and security of the constitution, freedom and independence of their country.

The

The unjust and imperious conduct of a majority of the French Directory toward America, may have been dictated by misrepresentations of their own agents, and of deluded Americans; but there is too much reason to believe that an unbounded ambition for universal empire, and an insatiable avarice of money, united with the delirium of victory, and a sanguine confidence that they are, at least for a time, the masters of the world, have dictated their insufferable arrogance, trampling alike on their own constitution, and the rights of their people; on the law of nations, and the faith of treaties.

It is indeed an awful consideration, that at a time when a great part of Europe appears disposed to adopt republican governments, a corruption should appear, which never was exhibited before, by the most absolute monarchies, or completest despotisms.

It should seem that fraud and force, were to be the only measure of right and wrong:—This system must soon be changed, or science, arts, virtue, liberty and peace, must be banished, and a savage barbarity substituted in their places.

America is of too much importance to the world, for the purposes of wealth and power, to leave her the smallest hope of escaping, without her own determined exertions, the contagion of the general distemper.

Your

A D D R E S S E S. 245

Your approbation and kind wishes are received with gratitude, and returned with sincerity.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WITH a solicitude equal to the important and interesting crisis which at this time agitates the public mind, added to a most sincere desire to convince the world, that no domestic divisions, or foreign machinations, aimed at the independence of our country, or intended to commit its honor, can ever succeed; we, the inhabitants of Kent county, in the State of Delaware, convened at Dover, beg leave to convey to you our most sincere and entire approbation of the wise, firm and conciliatory measures you have pursued to secure the blessings of peace, and to preserve un sullied and undiminished the safety, honor and independence of the United States.

As the constitutional organ of the United States, to settle and adjust differences with foreign nations, we feel no hesitation in declaring what we firmly believe, that you have done every thing to restore harmony, and continue the tranquillity of our country, that wisdom, policy and patriotism could possibly effect.

W^Y

Under

Under this view of your administration, much as we deprecate the calamities of war, yet when national disgrace and a tame submission to the most immeasurable insults and aggressions on the part of the French republic, become the only alternative, we can safely offer you our most unqualified assurances,—that as Americans who understand the blessings of liberty and a good government, we shall never hesitate a moment in our choice. To avert these evils, we are sorry to find that the most salutary measures which wisdom and sincerity could prescribe, have not only been frustrated and disregarded, but insultingly repelled and defeated by the basest attempts to extort from our country, even without a prospect of retribution, immense sums of money.

In every event, Sir, convinced of your wisdom, energy and patriotism, we not only engage our utmost support in the measures which government may ultimately adopt ; but in case of an unavoidable appeal to arms, we pledge ourselves to stand in constant readiness, firmly to oppose, at all hazards, every enemy, whom either a mistaken policy, lust of dominion, or love of plunder, may induce to violate our rights, or in any manner to invade the peace, liberty or independence of our country.

That the Ruler of the universe may guide and protect the councils and government of
the

the United States, and long preserve your valuable life, is the sincere prayer of our hearts.



To the CITIZENS of KENT County.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR resolutions and address unanimously adopted at Dover, have been presented to me by one of your senators in Congress, Mr. Latimer, and by your representative, Mr. Bayard.

I thank you for your sincere and entire approbation of the measures pursued to secure the blessings of peace, and to preserve un sullied and undiminished the safety, honor and independence of the United States.

Americans who know that the blessings of liberty, and a good government can never be enjoyed under national disgrace, and a tame submission to the most immeasurable insults and aggressions, can never hesitate a moment in their choice of measures.

When you engage your utmost support, to the measures which government may ultimately adopt, against the mistaken policy, lust of dominion, or love of plunder, which may violate our rights, or invade the peace, liberty and independence of our country, you give every assurance which the government can desire.

That

That supreme wisdom may guide, and Divine power protect the councils and arms of the United States, and long preserve and prosper the citizens of Kent, is the prayer of

JOHN ADAMS.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

SIR,

CONVINCED of your solicitude for the honor, independence and happiness of the United States, and of the justice of your administration toward foreign nations, the Grand Jury of the county of Suffex, in the State of Delaware, at this important crisis deem it a duty, to assure you of their perfect confidence in the wisdom and moderation of your councils, and of their entire approbation of the honest zeal you have displayed, to accommodate the differences between this country and the republic of France. And they doubt not that the same patriotic principles which have actuated you to persevere in your endeavors to preserve an honorable peace to your country, will, when the occasion shall require, animate you to defend with firmness and vigor those rights, of which, the constitution and laws have made you the guardian.

They

They pray God that these States may be still favored with his greatest blessing ; but should all your attempts prove ineffectual, they trust they will not be wanting in yielding every possible support to their country in the hour of danger.

However they may heretofore have differed in mere speculative opinions, yet, Sir, they are unanimous in declaring their fixed determination to support an administration which has given entire satisfaction, and which they verily believe possesses the esteem and respect of the great body of the people.

To the GRAND JURY of the County of SUSSEX.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR handsome address, which has been presented to me, demonstrates your attachment to your country, and is a sensible gratification to me.

If, as you believe, my administration has given entire satisfaction, one of the most ardent wishes of my heart will be satisfied, and as your obliging assurance of it is the highest reward in your power to bestow upon me, it receives my entire thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.

MARY.

MARYLAND.

The ADDRESS and MEMORIAL of the CITIZENS of BALTIMORE, and BALTIMORE County, to the PRESIDENT, the SENATE, and the House of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

THAT your memorialists at this important and eventful crisis, when a foreign nation equally regardless of the faith of treaties and the law of nations, has menaced with destruction the freedom and independence of the United States, and represented the citizens thereof to be a divided people, feel themselves impelled by considerations of duty and love to their country, to express their sentiments and declare their determination to support the constituted authorities.

Your memorialists highly applaud the wise and liberal measures pursued by the government of the United States, for the adjustment of all differences, and restoration of harmony between this country and the French republic ; measures, which, in their opinion, had for their object the preservation of peace, the faith of treaties, and the welfare of the United States. It is with regret we learn, that these advances to peace have

have been wantonly rejected, and our envoys not only denied an audience, but treated with the most marked contempt. A conduct like this, fails not to excite a spirit of indignation ; and although warmly attached to peace and its consequent blessings, we cannot for a moment hesitate in making our election between freedom and servile submission to a foreign power.

Having the fullest confidence in the wisdom of our government, we submit to their consideration the necessity of placing our country in a state of defence, and protecting our commerce ; and trust that in the adoption of such measures as sound policy may dictate, the consideration of expense and temporary inconvenience, resulting from the interruption of peace, will not be considered of such magnitude, as to be placed in competition with the sovereignty and freedom of the United States, whose existence is so unjustly threatened.

To the CITIZENS of BALTIMORE *and* BALTIMORE County.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for communicating to me this respectful address.

The sense you entertain of the conduct of a foreign nation, in threatening with destruction,

struotion, the freedom and independence of the United States, and representing the citizens of America as a divided people, is such as patriotism, naturally and necessarily inspires--The fate of every republic in Europe however, from Poland to Geneva, has given too much cause for such thoughts and projects in our enemies, and such apprehensions in our friends and ourselves.

Republics are always divided in opinions concerning forms of governments, and plans and details of administration--these divisions are generally harmless, often salutary and seldom very hurtful, except when foreign nations interfere, and by their arts and agents excite and ferment them into parties and factions : such interference and influence must be resisted and exterminated, or it will end in America, as it did anciently in Greece, and in our own time in Europe, in our total destruction, as a republican government, and independent power.

The liberal applause you bestow on the measures pursued by the government, for the adjustment of differences, and restoration of harmony, your resolutions of resistance in preference to submission to any foreign power ; your confidence in the government, your recommendation of measures of defence of the country and protection of its commerce, and your generous resolution

tion to submit to the expenses and temporary inconveniences which may be necessary to preserve the sovereignty and freedom of the United States, are received with much respect.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the GRAND LODGE of FREE MASONS, to His Excellency JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

ALTHOUGH it is a maxim of the Masonic fraternity, and which is most religiously adhered to, never to interfere in political subjects; yet if there ever was a season which could justify a deviation from this maxim, the present is that season; and we should deem ourselves culpable, at this moment, when the dangers of war threaten our country; at this moment, when the virulent and mercenary voice of party is employed to represent our institution as inimical to the security, not only of regular government, but even of Divine religion; did we not step forward publicly and explicitly to declare our sentiments of public measures, and our determination to support with our lives those sentiments in the issue.

“In the State, a Mason is to behave as a peaceable and dutiful subject.”—This, Sir,

is our great and only political principle ; and among the first lessons which are taught on our entrance into a Masonic Lodge, is submission to the laws and constituted authorities of the country in which we reside. ---He is no longer considered as a brother, who, in his character of a Mason, connives at the subversion of either.

With such a principle, and under such a government as ours, what must be our sentiments when we see that government and its representatives treated with a series of the most degrading and insupportable insults which the overgrown pride of a foreign nation can multiply upon it and them ? Taught to estimate men and things by the noble and unvarying standard of impartial justice, what must be our feelings when we behold the property of our fellow-citizens seized and confiscated by the lawless hand of a predatory power, disdaining any other pretext than that which arms furnish for its justification ? When we thus witness every right of neutrality and commerce violated, and the wide extent of ocean converted into a mart for piracy and plunder, aggravated by circumstances of the most unparalleled avarice ; when we sum up the immense catalogue of injuries which we have sustained from the French nation ; what our sensations must be, we leave you, Sir, to judge. Language is inadequate to define them ! To
your

your own breast we appeal : there you will find our sentiments deeply written, in the characters of patriotism, fidelity and honor.

Strongly inclined, from the tenets of our fraternal institution, to peace and good understanding with all the world, we deprecated war so long as we had any hope of its being possible to avoid it, consistently with the respect due to our own national character. We have seen, we admire and applaud the honorable and dignified means which you have unceasingly, though unsuccessfully pursued, to render this hope productive ; but we now fear it is no longer to be indulged, and are prepared for the worst that may ensue.

As citizens, we love, reverence, and will, to the extent of the means we are capable of employing, support the constitution which secures the liberty of our country. To do so is a duty—is a virtue : and the object of masonry is, to confirm, not to destroy, a virtuous principle—to encourage its votaries in the practice of the social as well as the moral duties, not to render them refractory to either. Masonry, therefore, teaches us to love our country. And though we may view war as full of horrors, yet an age of warfare does not appear so horrid as one moment of peace, purchased by the surrender of independence. We only wait the signal.—

signal.—The standard of our nation once unfurled, our lives, with those of our fellow-citizens, shall form a barrier to defend it.

Permit us to offer you our most sincere congratulations on an occasion the most interesting to Americans. . . . We again behold our WASHINGTON ! the glory of his country—the boast, the honor of our society and of mankind—relinquishing, in old age, the tranquil scene ! Summoned by the voice of his country, we again behold the hero and the patriot willing and forward to sacrifice his private ease for her safety ! What heart can be so cold—what heart can so languidly move, as not to beat high and strong at the thought of being once more commanded by that brightest ornament of the human character, our true, our beloved brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON !—The name alone will form a sure defence !

Accept, Sir, our grateful thanks for those patriotic exertions in support of the independence and the honor of our nation, which we have uniformly witnessed from you ; while we breathe to Heaven the fervent prayer, that the immortal Architect of the universe, the great Dispenser of the fate of nations, may long enable you to continue them.

To the FREE MASON^S of the State of MARY-
LAND.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this generous and noble address.

The zeal you display to vindicate your society from the imputations and suspicions of being "inimical to regular government and Divine religion," is greatly to your honor. It has been an opinion of many considerate men, as long as I can remember, that your society might, in some time or other, be made an instrument of danger and disorder to the world. Its ancient existence, and universal prevalence, are good proofs that it has not heretofore been applied to mischievous purposes; and in this country, I presume that no one has attempted to employ it for purposes foreign from its original institution. But in an age, and in countries, where morality is, by such numbers, considered as mere convenience, and religion a lie, you are better judges than I am, whether ill uses have been or may be made of Masonry.

Your appeal to my own breast, and your declaration that I shall there find your sentiments, I consider as a high compliment; and feel a pride in perceiving and declaring, that the opinions, principles and feelings expressed, are conformable to my own.

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With

With you, I fear that no hope remains, but in preparation for the work that may ensue.

Persevere, gentlemen, in revering the constitution which secures your liberties; in loving your country; in profaning the social, as well as the moral duties; in presenting your lives, with those of your fellow-citizens, a barrier to defend your independence. And may the Architect all-powerful surround you with walls impregnable, and receive you, finally, (your country happy, prosperous and glorious!) to mansions eternal in the Heavens.

With heart-felt satisfaction, I reciprocate your most sincere congratulations on an occasion the most interesting to Americans; no light or trivial cause would have given you the opportunity of beholding your WASHINGTON again relinquishing the tranquil scene, in delicious shades. To complete the character of French philosophy, and French policy, at the end of the eighteenth century, it seemed to be necessary to combat this patriot and hero.

JOHN ADAMS.

RESOLUTIONS adopted unanimously, by the
CITIZENS of CALVERT County.

I. THAT the President of the United States is entitled to the thanks of this meeting,

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ing, for his prudent, firm and patriotic administration, and for his wise, candid and sincere endeavors to obtain an amicable adjustment of the unhappy dispute with the French republic.

II. That our envoys, in the discharge of their duty, merit our esteem and approbation.

III. That although we sincerely deprecate a war (with all its concomitant calamities) with any foreign power, yet we will most cheerfully encounter every danger, rather than submit to the depredations so dishonorably committed on our commerce.

IV. That we view with abhorrence the attempts made by foreigners and others, to alienate our fellow-citizens from the government of their choice, that we are determined to support the constituted authorities of the United States, and that we will repel any invasion on our rights and liberties, at the risk of every thing that is dear and valuable.

V. That the chairman be requested to enclose the foregoing resolutions to the representative of this district, to be by him presented to the President and Congress of the United States.

To

NO PATRIOTIC

To the CITIZENS of CALVERT County.
GENTLEMEN.

YOUR resolutions have been communicated to me, according to your desire, by your representative in Congress, Mr. Dent.

Your thanks unanimously voted to me, are a great reward, and your esteem and approbation of our envoys in the discharge of their duty, is very acceptable to me.

Your resolutions most cheerfully to encounter every danger, rather than to submit to the depredations on our commerce, so dishonorably committed, and the abhorrence with which you view the attempts made by foreigners and others to alienate our fellow-citizens from the government of their choice, your determination to support the constituted authorities of the United States, and repel every invasion of your rights and liberties, at the risk of every thing that is dear and valuable, are wise and virtuous.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT this eventful period, when the dignity and independence of the United States are involved; at a time when a foreign nation has

has declared (among other enormous requisites) that money to an immense amount must be paid as a preliminary to an audience with the Directory, or their recognition of our envoys extraordinary to that nation; and at a time when a foreign nation attempts to degrade the American character, by declaring to the world, that they have in the bosom of our country a considerable party attached to their interests, or devoted to their mandates, with a view to overawe our councils; that the fate of Venice is held out to us as a punishment in reserve for our country; that their ships of war should ravage and plunder our sea-coasts, should their demands not be complied with—This painful picture, sent to us by our commissioners, in whom we repose full confidence, from a government so congenial to our own, from a nation to whom our best wishes extended in their arduous struggles for independence, is a strange and wonderful spectacle of man!—We, the subscribers, inhabitants of Washington county, and State of Maryland, anxious for peace with all the world, and being possessed of full information of your conduct with respect to France, have no doubt, Sir, but that you, with the other branches of our government, will yet meet, with sincerity, every honorable overture of that nation, for the final adjustment of the differences unhappily subsisting between

tween us; fully impressed with those ideas, we have only to declare that your conduct with respect to France, has been fair, ample and honorable, and receives our most hearty approbation, and having then the utmost confidence in the integrity and wisdom of our national government, we are resolved, at the risk of our lives and property, to support it, as one of our own choice, and the hard earned independence of our country.

*To the INHABITANTS of WASHINGTON
County.*

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address has been presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Baer.

When you say that the government of France is congenial to your own, I pray you, gentlemen, to reconsider the subject. The constitution, the administration, the laws, and their interpretation in France, are as essentially different from ours, as the ancient monarchy. If we may believe travellers returned from that country, or their own constitutions, the pomp and magnificence, the profusion of expense, the proud usurpation, the domineering inequality at present in that country, as well as the prostitution of morals and depravation of manners, exceed all that ever was seen, under the

the old monarchy, and form the most perfect
contrast to your own in all these respects.
—I shall meet, with sincerity, any honora-
ble overtures of that nation, but I shall
make no more overtures.

JOHN ADAMS.

To the **PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.**

SIR,

WE, the subscribers, being a committee
on the part of a respectable meeting of the
citizens of Worcester county, in the State
of Maryland, convened at Snowhill for the
purpose of expressing their sense of the con-
duct of our government in regard to its for-
eign relations, and to declare their determi-
nation at this pressing crisis to support it, do
communicate to you as the unanimous sense
of the said meeting, that your attempts to
restore that harmony between the United
States and the French republic, which has
been so unfortunately impaired, and to re-
instate that good understanding between the
two nations so desirable to the lovers of
peace, have been wise and prudent, and en-
title you to the highest evidence of their
esteem. Impressed as they are with the wis-
dom and propriety of the measures hitherto
pursued in the administration of our govern-
ment, sensible of our present alarming situa-
tion,

tion, and believing that our difficulties have been occasioned in a great measure by internal and foreign machinations, calculated to produce in France an unfounded opinion that the Americans are a divided people: In order to aid in removing an opinion so injurious to our national character and so hazardous to our peace, they will never hesitate to proclaim to the world their determination, and they do hereby pledge themselves to you, to support any measures which may be adopted by the government of their country calculated to support their rights and assert the dignity of the nation. Whilst we thus express to you the approbation and determination of our fellow-citizens, we cannot forbear to declare our abhorrence of the profligate and disgraceful conduct of the government of France, which has been disclosed in the dispatches from our envoys. While we lament the unfortunate necessity of having to negotiate with characters who do not hesitate to acknowledge their own prostitution, and to declare that the justice of our claims will avail us nothing: but that the only measure of their exactions is the extent of their power—To this conduct, those amiable principles of religion, morality and forbearance, contained in your late proclamation, exhibit to Americans a glaring contrast.

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Permit us also to indulge a hope, that in this threatening prospect of our affairs, harmony and unanimity may pervade our public councils and our citizens at large, and to express our unfeigned wishes for your health and happiness in the trying situation in which you are placed.



To the COMMITTEE of a Meeting of CITIZENS of WORCESTER County.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received from the hands of your representative, Mr. Dennis, your letter, expressing the sense of the citizens assembled at Snowhill.

Your approbation of the measures of government, and determination to support them, are very acceptable.

The dispatches exhibit a scene of corruption, depravity and intrigue, which is disgraceful to human nature—a striking contrast to the conduct of our envoys :—I am happy to find you observe in it a contrast to those amiable principles of religion, morality and forbearance, contained in a late Proclamation. Every lover of his country must join with you in the hope, that in this threatening prospect of our affairs, harmony and unanimity may pervade our councils, and our citizens at large.

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I return with thanks, your kind and unfeigned wishes for my health and happiness in these trying times.

JOHN ADAMS.

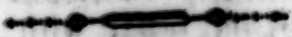


To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT this critical period, when the feelings of every heart impressed with the sentiments of love and duty to its country, must be excited, we, the citizens of Dorchester county, take the liberty to address you upon the conduct which, as chief magistrate of the United States, you have pursued in our disagreeable differences with the French republic. We beg you to be assured that your attempts to restore harmony between the two nations on just and honorable terms, and also your firm assertion of the claims, rights and independence of our country, meet our most cordial approbation, and have secured our warmest gratitude—We feel with indignation and resentment the insults and contempt, with which your offers of reconciliation and friendship have been treated; particularly as those offers were made, after our commerce had been harrassed and almost destroyed by the most wanton and lawless depredations—after our nation had been insulted by the most vile and insidious attempts

attempts to overawe and dictate to our legally constituted authorities. Although we highly value the blessings of peace, yet under the protection of Heaven, we are determined to rely with full confidence on your well-tryed patriotism and wisdom, firmly resolved to support with our lives and property, the honor, the liberty and independence of our country.



To the CITIZENS of DORCHESTER County.

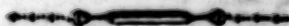
GENTLEMEN,

YOUR unanimous address has been presented to me by your representative, Mr. Dennis.

When you express in terms of so much force and propriety, the feelings of your hearts, impressed with sentiments of love and duty to your country ; when you assure me that my attempts to restore harmony between the United States and France, on just and honorable terms, and my firm assertion of the claims, rights and independence of our country, meet your cordial approbation, and have secured your warmest gratitude ; when you express your feelings of indignation and resentment, at the insults and contempt with which our offers of reconciliation and friendship have been treated, particularly as these offers were made, after our commerce

commerce had been harrassed by wanton and lawless depredations, and our nation had been insulted by vile and insidious attempts to overawe and dictate to our legally constituted authorities ; when you declare your determination to rely with full confidence on my endeavors, firmly resolved to support with your lives and fortunes, the honor, liberty and independence of our country, under the protection of Heaven—you penetrate my heart with gratitude for what concerns myself, and must receive the loud applause of the honest world for what concerns the public.

JOHN ADAMS.



From the INHABITANTS of HARFORD County, to the PRESIDENT, SENATE, and House of REPRESENTATIVES in CONGRESS.

ACTUATED by a sincere and ardent desire of peace with all the world, we have viewed with much satisfaction the measures taken by our Executive for an accommodation of the differences unhappily subsisting between this country and the French republic, and very much regret that they have not been met by a like disposition on the other part ; and as it appears highly important at this momentous crisis, that the unanimity of our sentiments and determinations should appear

appear manifest—We think proper to declare, that we are fully determined firmly to support, in all situations, our independence, and the government of our choice.



To the INHABITANTS of HARTFORD County.
GENTLEMEN,

YOUR virtuous resolutions at Hartford town, unanimously adopted, have been presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. Matthews.

The satisfaction you manifest, in the measures taken for an accommodation of differences subsisting between this country and the French republic, is very agreeable to me.

The determination to support, in all situations, your independence and the government of your choice, is worthy of freemen and faithful citizens ; and the public declaration of such sentiments at this time, in order to shew the unanimity of the people, is good policy, as it tends to confirm the confidence of the whole nation in one another, and to increase its respectability and consideration with foreign nations.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

SIR,

WE, the citizens of Caroline county, being sensible that the present state of our national affairs requires and demands our attention and unanimity, and that a uniformity of principles and sentiments are the chief essentials in the direction and welfare of government, being excited by those feelings, and sentiments of duty and love to our country, which, at such a crisis, cannot but impress the heart of every good citizen, beg leave to address you upon that conduct which you have, as chief magistrate of the United States, lately pursued to adjust and terminate our disagreeable and painful differences with the French republic.

We assure you, that we cordially unite in approbating those wise, just and moderate measures which you have adopted and pursued, to restore harmony and reconciliation between the two nations; and that you will, at all times find us ready to embrace with exclusive fondness, every wise and expedient measure of national security and defence.

With due resentment we feel the indign contempt and insults with which your late offers of friendship and reconciliation to the French republic have been treated; and

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we are happy to find, that not only duty, but inclination, prompted you to proceed therein with wisdom, temper and patriotic zeal.

Whilst we appreciate peace and tranquillity as the first of national blessings, and the end of every wise government; we shall ever unite to place the necessary barriers against the impulses of passion, the combination of foreign power, the intrigues of faction, the haste of folly, or the spirit of encroachment. With the gracious protection of the Supreme Ruler, and with a reliance on your wisdom and patriotism, we unanimously resolve firmly to maintain and support with our lives and properties, the honor, dignity and independence of our country.

To the CITIZENS of CAROLINE County.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address has been presented to me, as you desired, by your representative in Congress, Mr. Hindman.

The present state of our national affairs indeed demands the attention of every citizen, and uniformity of spirit will be our greatest security. With your sentiments of duty and love to your country, if they should be general and uniform throughout the nation, we may all have confidence in
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the gracious protection of the Supreme Ruler.

Your approbation of the measures of government is a great satisfaction.

I cannot agree with you, that tranquillity is always the first of national blessings-- there are times and objects, which demand of men, and especially of freemen, the sacrifice of peace, property and life. Indeed there can be no peace, without uniting to place the necessary barriers against the impulses of passion, the insinuations of foreign influence, the intrigues of faction, the haste of folly and the spirit of encroachment.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the JUSTICES, the GRAND and PETIT JURORS, and the OFFICERS of TALBOT County COURT, and of a numerous and respectable Body of the PEOPLE of the County, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE people of Talbot county, in the State of Maryland, impressed in common with their fellow-citizens, with a lively sense of the critical situation of their public affairs, feel it a duty which they owe to their country and themselves, to address to you the sentiments which the present occasion has inspired.

We

We had hoped that the moderation, wisdom and justice, with which the executive government of the United States hath conducted itself in its relations with foreign powers, would have secured us from a participation in the war which has desolated Europe : It is therefore with extreme concern that we view the alarming position, in which the nation is placed by the rapacious avarice and destructive projects of those who tyrannize over the people of France. But in the midst of this concern, we derive abundant consolation from reflecting, that the measures which you have pursued for removing subsisting differences with the French republic, have proceeded from a liberal and sincere disposition to restore harmony, and preserve the important interests of the United States, without sacrificing the honor or sovereignty of their government, and were ably and wisely calculated to attain these ends, had your negotiations been reciprocated with that spirit of reconciliation and friendship, which her public agents have so often, but so perfidiously professed. We feel the keenest indignation in perceiving that these advances have been treated with unmerited contempt ; and that the ambitious directors of this government, wholly abandoning the immutable principles of justice, and equally disregarding the law of nations and the faith of treaties, have wantonly per-
sisted

sisted in accumulating injuries upon the commerce and persons of our citizens, and in vilifying, by the most scandalous insults, the executive authority of the United States.

In such a state of things, it becomes indispensably necessary for a free people to express their feelings, and to vindicate their rights; and while we declare our entire confidence in your wisdom and integrity, we assure you, Sir, of our determination to support every measure, which the present crisis may demand, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, and to destroy those malignant hopes which have been entertained from a vain belief, that the people of this country are at variance with their government.

Animated as we are by the love of peace, it is not without reluctance that we contemplate the calamities of war: but resolved to maintain the rights and independence of our country, without the enjoyment of which, peace would be only vassalage, we are fully prepared to await the events which may befall us; and if recourse must be had to arms, we shall trust, under Divine Providence, to the justice of our cause: And under such auspices, we are confident that the issue will be fortunate, and be rendered glorious by the wisdom and patriotism of the government, and by the courage and virtue of the people.

To the JUSTICES, the GRAND and PETIT JURORS and OFFICERS of TALBOT County, and the numerous Body of PEOPLE of that County.

GENTLEMEN,

THIS unanimous address from so respectable an assembly of citizens, of such various classes and denominations, conveying to me the sentiments which the present occasion has inspired, does me great honor.

You see that neither justice nor moderation can secure us from a participation in the war which has agitated Europe. The rapacious avarice and destructive projects of those who rule in France, have made war upon us already for years—a war all of one side, a war without reciprocity.

Our negotiations have been conducted upon public and national principles and interests, not upon little projects of the private ambition, or avarice of individuals among the rulers. Our advances have been treated with unmerited contempt; the question now is, Will you reverse your maxims? and by gratifying the rapacity of rulers abroad, teach your own future rulers at home lessons of rapacity?

The executive authority of your country, you may depend upon it, will be vilified, by the most scandalous insults, by such rulers, as long as it is upright and pure.

Peace

Peace without independence, according to your own happy expression, would be vassalage.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the CITIZENS of ELKTON and its vicinity, in CECIL County, to the PRESIDENT and CONGRESS of the UNITED STATES.

LIVING under a constitution organized by the wisdom of our country, as the best adapted to the attainment of those objects which are the end of all rational government. A constitution alike inimical to anarchy and hereditary power, every public functionary deriving authority mediately or immediately from the people, we deem it sufficient, to command our support of the measures of administration, that the competent authorities decide.

Well satisfied that the citizens of the United States are firm in this principle, we learn with indignation that in a foreign country an opinion prevails, that the measures of this government may be defeated or embarrassed by the conflicting opinions of individuals. To repel this idea so degrading to Americans, and to evince to the world our determination on that point, we think it proper to declare, that we will by all the means in our power, support the decisions of the constituted

functionary deriving authority mediately or immediately from the people, there cannot be a greater absurdity in theory, than an opinion in a foreign country, that the measures of this government may be defeated or embarrassed by the conflicting opinions of individuals, nor can there be a greater affront, or more injurious reflection cast on representative governments; for if the principle were well founded, the necessary consequence would be, that the people are incapable of supporting a government of their own choice and fabric; and that government must be hereditary, in order to give it strength, to combine the public opinion, to draw together the wills and forces of the people. Your zeal therefore to repel this idea so degrading to Americans, is natural and well founded.

Your declaration that by all the means in your power, you will support the decisions of the constituted authorities, is in the character of the best of citizens.

There is not one of you, my fellow-citizen, more anxious for the diminution of the public debt, than myself; and a well regulated sinking fund may one day be resorted to, as a powerful engine for that purpose: But I fear we shall find a necessity of postponing this salutary operation in its full extent, to a time when the honor and safety

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of the nation shall be better secured than at present.

Your approbation of my conduct is very precious to me, and deserves my thanks.

JOHN ADAMS.

RESOLUTIONS unanimously adopted by the CITIZENS of GEORGETOWN.

I. **THAT** in the opinion of this meeting, the Executive of the United States, in their instructions to our ministers in France, afford the most unequivocal evidence of a sincere desire to promote and perpetuate an honorable peace with the French republic.

II. That although peace with all nations is justly dear to this country, yet that the preservation of its honor and independence is the first national object, and ought therefore to be considered infinitely more estimable.

III. That this meeting feel it a duty to express in the strongest terms, their confidence in the wisdom, virtue and patriotism of the constituted authorities of their country—their reliance that at this eventful period, their deliberations will be influenced by a pure regard to the happiness and prosperity of the nation:—And that, whatever difference of opinion may exist among us,
in.

in regard to our internal and domestic regulations ; still if the necessity of a solemn appeal to arms should be imposed upon us, America, so far from shewing herself a degraded and divided people, will exhibit to the world an example of unanimity and patriotism not to be exceeded.

IV. That the chairman of this meeting be intrusted to forward to the representative of this district, a copy of these resolutions ; with a request that he will communicate the same to the President and Congress of the United States.

To the CITIZENS of GEORGETOWN.

GENTLEMEN,

MR. CRAIK, the representative of your district, has presented to me, in your name, a copy of the resolutions passed at a numerous and respectable meeting of the citizens of Georgetown.

Your approbation of the instructions to our ministers to France ; your estimation of the honor and independence of your country, as the first national object, and more estimable even than the blessings of peace ; your confidence in the constituted authorities of your country, and in the unanimity and patriotism of your fellow-citizens, the American people, are honorable
to

to yourselves, the government and the nation; and the communication of them at this crisis, cannot fail to be agreeable to all, but the enemies of this country.

*From the CITIZENS of BOHEMIA MAJOR
and SASSAFRAS NECK, in Cecil County,
to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

AS a portion of the people of this government, participating in the advantages resulting from well-secured freedom, we cannot remain indifferent to the manifold injuries, which, in violation of a solemn treaty and the laws of nations, are daily inflicted on our fellow-citizens. Nor can we view with apathy the reiterated indignities and outrages offered to the government of our choice.

Although we are not engaged in commerce, we are sensible of its importance to our interests, as cultivators of the earth; we therefore consider ourselves bound by that consideration, as well as the obligation of mutual concession to our fellow-citizens who pursue commerce, to contribute to its protection. We also most firmly believe that the interests of the people and of the government, are as intimately blended as those of agriculture and commerce: and we

hold all attempts to separate the one from the other, in utmost detestation.

If, as has been insidiously insinuated, or rather asserted, there is a faction in this government so lost to American feelings, as to espouse the unjust and arrogant pretensions of a foreign nation, we beg leave to assure you that we are not of that description. And we trust that very few will be found so unworthy the blessings they enjoy.

While we sincerely lament that the prudent and pacific steps taken by our chief magistrate to preserve peace, so desirable to all nations, are likely to fail of the wished for effect, we highly applaud the policy of such temperate proceedings. Seeing in them a sincere and ardent desire to promote and accelerate an accommodation with the republic of France, on terms compatible with the rights, duties, interests and honor of the nation, we are encouraged to place additional confidence in the integrity and wisdom of the constituted authorities; and the more readily to promise our willing aid in support of such measures as may be adopted by them in the present unhappy situation of our public concerns.

We pray you, Sir, to accept our best wishes for the prolongation of your life, hitherto so eminently distinguished for its usefulness and patriotism, and that it may be blessed

ADDRESSES.

blest with the enjoyment of every happiness.

To the CITIZENS of BOWENIA MANOR and
SASSAVRASS NECK, in Cecil County.
GENTLEMEN.

I THANK you for this address. It would be unaccountable indeed, if any portion of a people, who acknowledge a participation in the advantages resulting from well secured freedom, could be indifferent to the manifold injuries which, in violation of a solemn treaty and the laws of nations, are daily inflicted on our fellow-citizens, or view with apathy the reiterated indignities and outrages offered to the government of their choice.

The importance of commerce to the interests of the cultivators of the earth, is so obvious, that at least as much zeal has appeared for its protection in the landed interests as the monied interest, in farmers as in merchants, in country citizens as in navigators.

If the interests of the people and of the government are not as intimately blended as those of agriculture and commerce in an elective government, in what other form can they be more so? Will those who attempt to separate the one from the other, pretend

684 PATRIOTIC

pretend that in hereditary governments they are more so? or under military conquerors?

I believe with you that very few will be found so unworthy of the blessings they enjoy, as to espouse the unjust and arrogant pretensions of a foreign nation, yet we have found that a few venal pressers, and unprincipled mercenaries have been able to raise loud clamors, produce much discontent, and threaten serious calamities.

The expressions of your satisfaction and confidence, as well as the promise of your willing aid in support of such measures as may be adopted in the present unhappy situation of our public concerns, are very agreeable.

For your kind wishes for the prolongation of my life, I return you mine, for every blessing on you and posterity.

JOHN ADAMS.

VIRGINIA.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR;

AT this important moment, when imminent danger threatens us from abroad, the undersigned Young Men of Richmond, feel themselves

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themselves impelled by that common sentiment, which now animates America, to express their fervent wishes for peace; but their determined resolution to support those measures of government, which are calculated to repel foreign aggressions, and to protect our country from injury and insult. We deem it the duty of every citizen, to support all those measures of government, which are constitutionally adopted: but impressed with a firm belief that the conduct of our government has been impartial as a neutral nation, that it has been faithful in its sacred observance of treaties, and that it has demonstrated its friendly disposition to an ancient ally, by offering that explanation of existing differences, which could alone restore harmony: our duty as citizens shall, on this occasion, be animated by the active energy of patriotic zeal.—It is much to be lamented, that separated as we are from the European world, we must still feel its agitations: It is much more to be lamented, that we should be reluctantly dragged into a contest with the French nation; a nation which once aided our fathers in a difficult and glorious struggle, and for whom we have been once taught to cherish something more than esteem and friendship. Our hearts too are still free to confess a veneration for the mighty effort which overturned the degrading despotism of royalty, and the multiplied

multiplied mischiefs of their political system; but when we see the enthusiasm for liberty, extinguished by an ambition which grasps at the domination of the world; when we behold them intoxicated with success, proudly dictating to unwilling nations, and subjugating those who are not submissive slaves, or the ready instruments of their future domination—that bosom which once glowed with exultation, for the triumphs of Frenchmen, now burns with no less indignation at their flagitious conduct, their present injuries and insults—injuries too many and too aggravated, for silence and inaction.

It is a cause of infinite regret that the repeated offers to negotiate, on our part, should be treated with disdain; that in sullen silence, the rulers of France should turn a deaf ear to the voice of justice and friendship, or indirectly menace us with vengeance, by presenting to our view those unfortunate and degraded people, who have already been forced to bend beneath their yoke. We feel, however, a pleasing consolation, that you, Sir, have exhibited to the world, the most unequivocal testimonials of the upright intentions of our government, and that the mind of man cannot resist the evidence which it discloses of a friendly, just and rigorously impartial conduct.

It is our wish, and we believe it to be your's, that the calamities of war should be
averted

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averted by every mean, consistent with the honor, dignity and rights of an independent nation: but if this evil, which we deprecate, should be our lot, the firmness of freedom will be sustained by a belief, that moderation and justice will consecrate the sword, which necessity draws. We repose confidence in the wisdom and virtue of the constituted authorities, and permit us to assure you, Sir, that we shall be ever ready to lend our aid, in vindication of our violated rights, and that our endeavors, though weak, shall be ever ready to lend our aid, in vindication of our violated rights, and that our endeavors, though weak, shall be zealously joined with the rest of our fellow-citizens, in supporting the liberty and independence of our country, against the unjust attacks of the French nation, or any other power on earth.

To the YOUNG MEN of RICHMOND.

GENTLEMEN,

AN address, so respectful to me, so faithful to the nation, and true to its government, from so honorable a portion of the Young Men of Richmond, cannot fail to be very acceptable to me.

You will not take offence, I hope, at my freedom, however, if I say, that if you had been taught to cherish in your hearts, an
esteem

esteem and friendship for France, it would have been enough ; more than these toward any foreign power, had better be reserved.

It might have been as well for us in America, whose distance is so great, and whose knowledge of France, and her government, was so imperfect, to have suspended our veneration, for the mighty effort which overturned royalty, until we should have seen all degrading despotism at an end in the country, and something more consistent with virtue, equality, liberty and humanity substituted in its place—Hitherto the progress has been from bad to worse.

The conduct of the French government towards us, is of a piece with their behaviour to their own citizens, and a great part of Europe. Your sensibility to their insults and injuries to your country, is very becoming, and your resolution to resist them, do you honor.

A fresh insult is now offered to all America, and especially to her government, in the arbitrary dismissal of two of their envoys, with scornful intimations of capricious prejudices against them—But I am weary of enumerating insults and injuries.

JOHN ADAMS.

To

RESOLUTIONS adopted by the INHABITANTS
of the Town of ALEXANDRIA.

I. **THAT** the prospect of an impending rupture with the republic of France, is one which is deeply to be deplored ; and that war and all measures of conflict that lead directly to hostilities with that or any other nation, are only to be justified by causes which affect our national independence, but that when these exist, and are not to be averted by means of amicable negotiation, arms become the natural, equitable and indispensable resort.

II. That the measures which have been adopted and pursued by the Executive of the United States, to obtain retribution for injuries, and to restore harmony between us and the French republic, have been truly wise and patriotic ; the event having abundantly proved, that on the part of France there exists a corrupt administration, to whom a further application on the principles of justice, must continue to be nugatory.

III. That while a hope is cherished that some foreign political event may soon take place, to obviate present appearances and dissipate the gloom of war, it is expedient nevertheless, for the government of this country, to adopt with promptitude effectual measures of defence ; to act like the

rulers of a free and independent nation, whose situation and internal resources enable it to scourge every invader of its rights or territories, and that in conformity with these sentiments, the citizens of Alexandria promise a faithful co-operation with the administration and cheerful and prompt compliance with any degree or mode of taxation which shall be deemed necessary or expedient.

IV. That the foregoing resolutions be published in the Alexandria newspapers, and that a copy of them be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

V. That a committee be appointed to prepare an address to the President of the United States, inclosing the foregoing resolutions.

*From the COMMITTEE of the INHABITANTS
of the Town of ALEXANDRIA, to the PRES-
IDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

THE citizens of Alexandria, viewing with the liveliest apprehensions the alarming situation of our political differences with the republic of France, as detailed in the communications of our envoys at Paris to the
Secretary

Secretary of State, and desirous of evincing their attachment to the government of their country, and a virtuous indignation at any attempt to infringe its national sovereignty, have commissioned us to transmit to you the inclosed resolutions expressive of their sentiments upon subjects so important and interesting to the peace, dignity and prosperity of the United States. We have seen with anxious regret, the gradual dissolution of those ties of gratitude and affection, which have so long attached America to the interests of France: but when that affection is violated by the grossest injuries; when an expression of gratitude becomes our reproach, and we are smarting under the lash of unprovoked aggressions; when every attempt at amicable negotiation has been frustrated; it becomes the indispensable duty of a free people to vindicate the insulted honor of its national character.

We embrace, Sir, with peculiar satisfaction, this favorable opportunity of expressing to you, the warm acknowledgments of a grateful people for your truly wise and patriotic exertions to preserve the tranquillity of your country. The measures adopted and pursued by the Executive of the United States, meet our warmest approbation; and though many attempts have been made to separate us from the government of our choice, and the difference of political sentiment

ment has been the mean employed for that purpose, yet be assured we will ever repel with unanimity and energy, every effort of a foreign power to diminish our rights as an independent nation. We take a pride in expressing to you, Sir, our entire approbation of the rectitude and integrity of your administration. We are pleased to see those virtues and talents so often exercised for the benefit of your country in the late revolutionary contest, again exerted in the discharge of the arduous duties of the first magistrate of the Union. Accept, Sir, our sincere and ardent wishes for your public prosperity and private happiness.



*From the YOUNG MEN of the County of
GREENSVILLE, to the PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

TO assure you of our concurrence, at this time, with the measures pursued by you, in support of our independence, is not the purpose of this address. It is to claim a share in the defence of our country, and once more shew the contrast between the defenders of liberty, and the hirelings of despotism. We trust we are not degenerated from our fathers who obtained our liberties, and be it our care to preserve the fair inheritance inviolate.

Suffer

Suffer us to assure you, that you have only to point out the mode, and our lives now, as they ever have been, shall willingly be sacrificed in the defence of our liberties and government.

We regret our distance from Philadelphia, as by that mean we are deprived of the happiness of assuring you personally, of our readiness, under your command, to take up arms in defence of our constitution.

Permit us too, to congratulate you on the hearty concurrence of our brothers of Philadelphia; and thus may you, as long as our country shall demand the exertion of your abilities, receive in the most ample manner, the sentiments and good wishes of every American.

To the YOUNG MEN of GREENSVILLE.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address is in a style to convince me, that you are not degenerated from the wisdom and virtues of your fathers, and that you will preserve the fair inheritance, which they defended with so much success.

The claim you advance to share in the defence of your country, the sacrifices you offer to make, and the applause you bestow on your brothers of Philadelphia, are honorable to your characters.

If your distance had not prevented, I should have seen you in Philadelphia with pleasure.

JOHN ADAMS.

RESOLUTIONS unanimously adopted by a COMMITTEE composed of a DEPUTATION from each MILITIA COMPANY of the Forty-eighth REGIMENT in the County of BOTTETOURT.

I. **IT** is the opinion of this meeting, that the President of the United States not only possesses, but is entitled to the confidence of the people of this part of the United States.

II. That it is with extreme regret, we see the attempts of some of our citizens to detract from his real merit, and propagate the idea of disaffection to an excellent government and its administration.

III. That while we lament any cause which would tend to interrupt the tranquillity, prosperity and independence, which, under Divine Providence, we are permitted at present to enjoy, we will with firmness repel any attempts to wrest those blessings from us, from whatsoever quarter they may proceed. And that although it is our wish to be at peace with all the world, more particularly with the French republic, we shall prefer

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fer hostilities even with that nation, to a prostration of our rights, and that state of national degradation to which they have lately attempted to reduce us.

IV. That our chairman do draft an address to the President of the United States, in the spirit of the foregoing resolutions, and expressive of the high sense we entertain of his firmness, integrity and patriotism, and that he cause the said resolutions and address to be printed in such of the Gazettes of the United States as he may think proper.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE attention of the people of this country, awaked by the alarming crisis of American affairs, has been directed to the measures of your administration; and they declare with an unanimous voice, that you have merited and possess their entire confidence. They behold with extreme regret, the attempts of some of their fellow-citizens to propagate an idea of disaffection to an excellent government and its administration; and this regret is accompanied with indignation, when they perceive that it has encouraged in a foreign country, the plan of degrading our republic, from its independent station. They prize most highly the blessings

blessings of peace and prosperity, which, by the Divine favor, they at present enjoy; but considering them as the fruits of the happy government of their choice, they will repel any attack upon its independence, from whatever quarter it may proceed. It is their wish to cultivate peace with the whole world, and more particularly with the French republic; but they cannot consent for this object, to sacrifice the honor and independence of the nation, without which peace must be precarious and unblest.

Permit us to assure you, Sir, that we admire the consistency of your character; and are pleased to see the same firmness, integrity and patriotism at the present day, which you so eminently displayed in the great crisis of the American revolution.



To the COMMITTEE composed of a DEPUTATION from each MILITIA COMPANY of the Forty-eighth REGIMENT in the County of BOTETOURT.

GENTLEMEN,

A COPY of your unanimous resolutions together with an address, signed by your chairman, has been presented to me by one of your representatives in Congress, Mr. Evans.

The

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The confidence of the people of Virginia, or any such respectable portion of them, is peculiarly agreeable to me, as it evinces a tendency to a restoration of that harmony and union, which I well remember to have once existed, and which was so auspicious to the American cause, but which has been apparently interrupted since the commencement of the Federal government.

It is scarcely possible that I should ever read a sentence more delightful to my heart, than those words, "We admire the consistency of your character, and are pleased to see the same firmness, integrity and patriotism at the present day, so eminently displayed in the great crisis of the American revolution."

JOHN ADAMS.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES,

SIR,

AT a moment when foreign dangers threaten our peace, and when these dangers originate in an opinion that our government and our people are divided in sentiment, and opposed in interest, we, inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk, feel ourselves impelled by every consideration of honor, as men, and integrity, as citizens, to express our unshaken confidence in the measures of
our

our government, and our unimpaired attachment to the principles of our constitution.

In reviewing those measures of our government, which are the avowed causes of the unfriendly conduct which the French republic has practised towards us, we feel an honest pride in expressing our opinion, that impropriety or censure cannot justly attach themselves to those measures.

In examining the steps which have been pursued to obtain an amicable adjustment of existing differences, we see with pleasure a liberal, candid and sincere disposition on the part of our government, to relinquish every secondary consideration for the maintenance of peace; we regret that those dispositions have not been met with sentiments equally pacific, with a temper equally conciliatory and accommodating on the part of France.

While we avow the friendly interest which we have formerly taken in the affairs of France, we reject with honest indignation her inadmissible demands; we spurn with manly pride the imputations of disunion and disaffection to our government, on which these demands were founded.

We deprecate a war, as pregnant with evils to all countries, and particularly inimical to the interests of the United States; but we are at the same time determined not to purchase

purchase peace at the price of that national character and individual security, without which, peace ceases to be either honorable or desirable.

While, therefore, we hope that a returning sense of justice and moderation on the part of France, will terminate our disagreements by friendly explanation, and honorable reparation; while we rely that our own government will not cease to avoid war, by every mean, consistent with our national honor, and compatible with our national interest, we yet trust that measures of defence will be immediately adopted, and that our country will be prepared to meet every possible event.

Should these measures, defensive in their nature, and prompted by a necessary regard to our unquestionable rights, be considered as indicative of a hostile disposition to the French republic, the government of the United States stands acquitted to its citizens and the world. Providence alone can determine the issue: we pledge ourselves that it will be fortunate so far as our steady co-operation and support of the government can render it so.

To

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE the subscribers, inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, in the State of Virginia, now offer our most unfeigned approbation of the wise system which governs your administration in pursuing the same principle of neutrality that the late President Washington adopted at the commencement of this war among the European powers, a principle that hath been adhered to on the part of the United States, with the most inviolable faith. You have evinced that soundness of judgment, which every man who knew your character as a statesman anticipated, when the voice of America called you to the supreme administration of these States: Scanning your conduct since your appointment, with the jealous eye that vigilant freedom should ever carry over executive magistracy, we find it difficult to determine whether more to admire your wisdom, or your firmness and moderation.

The late dispatches from our envoys at Paris, and the instructions given by the Executive, shew beyond the possibility of doubt, that it is your ardent wish to recur to every expedient to heal the differences, that aggressions unprovoked, have occasioned between France and these United States; and
that

that your moderation carried you to every length to accomplish this object, short of the resignation of the independence these States had acquired, after a long struggle, by their courage, their treasure, and their blood.

After these dispatches and instructions received the fulness of publicity, and exhibited to the conviction of impartial America, the prudent measures that actuated the President of the United States, we flattered ourselves all party divisions in every branch of our public councils would be at once extinguished; but, though this desirable result has not as yet as immediately ensued as we expected, we are happy to find the people at large in every part of these States, in proportion as they are informed and enlightened on this greatly interesting object, and see the true drift of the conduct of the supreme executive power, have come to this determination—To support their country in all its rights of independence, at whatever expense of treasure, and peril of person, sooner than submit without a struggle to the wanton exactions, the imperious mandates, and the injurious treatment of any foreign nation.

To the INHABITANTS of the County of MIDDLESEX.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, presented to me by your representative in Congress, Mr. New.

The principle of neutrality, has indeed been maintained on the part of the United States with irviolable faith, notwithstanding every embarrassment and provocation, both of injury and insult, until we have been forced out of it, by an actual war made upon us, though not manfully declared.

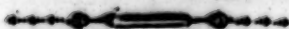
For reasons that are obvious to all the world, you may easily imagine, that every manifestation of candor towards me from any part of Virginia, must be peculiarly agreeable—the handsome expressions of your approbation deserve my thanks. Every thing has been done, short of a resignation of our independence—a resignation of our *independence*! I blush to write the words; there would be as much sense in speaking of a resignation of the independence of France or Germany, or Russia: We are a nation as much established as any of them, and as able to maintain our sovereignty, absolute and unlimited by sea and land, as any of them.

It is too much to expect, that all party divisions will be done away, as long as there are rival States and rival individuals; all

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we can reasonably hope is, and this we may confidently expect, that no State or individual, to gratify its ambition, will enlist under foreign banners.

JOHN ADAMS.



To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE inhabitants of the county of Bedford, and State of Virginia, beg leave, at this important crisis, to join the general voice of their fellow citizens in other parts of the United States, in expressing to you their sincere approbation of the measures which have been adopted by the Executive, to preserve the blessings of peace to this country, and particularly to restore harmony with the French republic; we reflect with gratitude, on the earnest solicitude, and successful endeavors of your illustrious predecessor, to avoid a participation in the destructive consequences of an European war; and we acknowledge, with pleasure, a correspondent sentiment, on a review of the wise, firm and patriotic measures of your administration.

Although we deprecate war with any nation, and deplore the prospect that now threatens our peace, yet under such auspices,

ces, and relying on the unanimity of the people, the justice of our cause, and the protection of Divine Providence, we look forward with confidence to a favorable issue, even with that nation, who, flushed with victory, has insolently threatened our country with the humiliating fate of many of those powers she has conquered. The exercise of foreign influence in the United States, is so degrading, that every American, we trust, will repel, with indignation, any attempts of the kind. For ourselves, we disdain the spirit that would bend to a mean subserviency to the views of any power whatever.

Feeling an unlimited attachment to and confidence in the government of the United States, we do not hesitate to declare our determination to support, to the utmost of our power, every measure deemed necessary for the defence, honor and interest of our country.

And we implore the Supreme Ruler of events to continue your strength of body and mind, so that you may terminate the present unhappy situation of our affairs with honor to yourself, and with glory to these United States.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

YOUR fellow-citizens of the county of Westmoreland cannot, at this important crisis, withhold their offering of gratitude and respect to their chief magistrate, as well to assure him of their unshaken decision at all times, and on all occasions to maintain inviolate the independence of their country, as to relieve the reputation of the American nation from the unfounded aspersions which the agents of a foreign country have asserted in support of wrongs inflicted, in contempt of a solemn treaty of friendship, on our unoffending peaceable fellow-citizens, and of demands made on the honor and purse of our country.

The declaration that our people are hostile to a government made by themselves, for themselves, and conducted by themselves, is an insult; malignant in its nature and extensive in its mischief: While it supports the opinion that the efforts of the accusing nation have, under the cover of amity, promoted the deepest injury, it shews too that on the success of this favorite scheme do they chiefly rely for the execution of their wicked projects. On our enemy the acknowledgment pours down shame and confusion, and is to our countrymen a mon-

itory lesson, from which great good we trust will be derived.

That freemen should differ in opinion concerning the measures of their government, is not only to be expected, but is even to be desired, when obedient to law, and guided by love of country : but differences like these (and we believe that, generally speaking, only such have existed among us) while they prove the general happiness, may be considered as sure pledges of united efforts to defend that government from insult and injury, under whose wing all participate alike in the felicity it diffuses. If we should unfortunately hold in our bosom citizens bearing the American name, and destitute of the American heart, they must be few in number ; and wise laws, firmly executed, will speedily cure every evil flowing from this source : To the wisdom of Congress we look for the remedy ; and in your paternal vigilance and immoveable firmness we rely for its effectual application.

When our forefathers exchanged their native country for the wilderness of America, devotion to their God, obedience to the principles of morality, love of liberty guided by love of order, were their governing principles : This precious inheritance our fathers cherished with sincere affection ; and in a late awful trial, to the influence of these
first-rate

first-rate rules on our infant nation, may with truth be chiefly ascribed the glorious issue of our common toils and common dangers. That issue we hold in trust for our posterity, and that trust we will never forfeit. Since that period we have grown strong by union. Where is the nation that can coerce United Columbia into submission? The sun has not yet shone upon it.

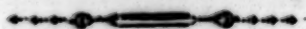
We love peace—we hate war; but we prize our honor too highly to wish the continuance of the first, or to turn from the perils of the last, with a degraded name. We believe too (and in this belief, past as well as present experience justifies us) that the surest way to preserve peace, is to be prepared for war.

Your sincere and dignified endeavors to conciliate differences, to obtain restitution for wrongs, and your determination to sacrifice all secondary considerations on the altar of peace; sheds new lustre on your well-earned fame, and adds a new title to your established claim on the admiration and gratitude of your fellow-citizens.

Conciliation being rejected, war continued, one course only was left by which national disgrace could be instantly arrested, and national existence permanently maintained. That happy course you have taken with decision, frankness and fortitude; we cannot

cannot hesitate in the part becoming us to act : In peace we obey the laws ; we foster the union of the States ; we inspire our children with love of virtue, of their country, and their God : In war we know but one additional obligation—to die in the last ditch, or uphold our nation. This sacred duty we will teach by our example ; and in full reliance on the justice of our cause, we are prepared to meet every event to which we may be exposed, with a resolution deserving victory.

To the Almighty Ruler of nations we humbly commend our country and our President, and we implore him to pour upon them the continual dew of his blessing.



To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AT a crisis when the sovereignty of our country is assailed ; when demands are made upon us by a foreign nation, altogether incompatible with our honor and independence and when in case of a refusal to accede to those demands, even our national existence is threatened : when we have reason to believe that an opinion has gone forth (which has contributed to produce this conduct) that we are a people divided among ourselves

ourselves by faction and party spirit, distracted by feuds and animosities, and separated from our government, both by opinion and interest ;—we, the inhabitants of the county of Accomack in the State of Virginia, convened in full meeting at the courthouse of the said county, by previous public notice, feel ourselves called upon by duty, as well as inclination, to declare, and we do unanimously declare, our entire approbation of the measures which have hitherto been pursued by our government—our confident reliance that such only will in future be pursued as will comport with the honor and interest of our country—and our unceasing attachment to the principles of our constitution.

We declare our conviction that our government has manifested a most earnest desire to preserve peace with all nations, particularly with the French republic ; that upon a fair and candid review of the conduct of our government, we discover nothing which ought to have given umbrage to that republic, or which can in any wise justify her numerous aggressions on the persons and properties of our citizens, in direct violation of the laws of nations, and in contravention of her existing treaties with us : and that even since those multiplied causes of dissatisfaction have existed, the measures pursued towards that country have been marked by a
spirit

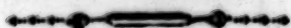
spirit of mildness and conciliation, such as ought to have realized our reasonable hopes, that they would prove successful.

It is with the utmost concern and regret, therefore, that we perceive those efforts to maintain harmony, and to avert the calamities of war with that republic, are likely to prove abortive, and that our advances towards an amicable adjustment of existing differences have not been met by a like friendly and pacific disposition on the part of the French nation, but that conditions have been essayed to be imposed upon our country, which they have sometimes called their sister republic, that would be degrading to a free nation, and such as we do not hesitate to reject with indignation.

Although we view war as particularly injurious to the interests of our country, yet we consider it as an evil of less magnitude than national degradation. While therefore, we would fain indulge a hope, that the French republic may return to a sense of justice, by withholding further acts of hostility and outrage, by making reparation for those already committed, and by closing with overtures made for the restoration of harmony and a friendly intercourse between the two countries, upon the broad basis of equal right and reciprocal benefit ;—we trust our country will be prepared to meet
the

the contrary event, and to assert and maintain her rights with firmness, even at the expense of war with all its horrors.

We promise cheerfully to co-operate in whatever measures those entrusted with the administration of our government shall deem conducive to the interests, and consistent with the honor of the nation ; and we pledge our lives, our fortunes, and all we hold dear, upon the success of the issue.



To the INHABITANTS of Accomack County.

GENTLEMEN,

I PRAY you to accept my thanks for your unanimous address, replete with sentiments truly American.

Your conviction that your government has manifested a most earnest and sincere desire to preserve peace with all nations, particularly with the French republic ; your declaration that upon a candid review of the conduct of your government, you can discover nothing which ought to have given umbrage to that republic, or which can in any wise justify her numerous aggressions on the persons and properties of our citizens, in direct violation of the law of nations, and in contravention of her existing treaties with us—ought to give entire satisfaction to the government.

Your

Your concern and regret, that those efforts to maintain harmony, have proved abortive, are natural and common to you and me, and all our fellow-citizens, but can be of no use; instead of dwelling on our regrets, we must explore our resources. Although we may view war as particularly injurious to the interests of our country, Providence may intend it for our good, and we must submit. That it is a less evil than national dishonor, no man of sense and spirit will deny.

I have no hope that the French republic will soon return to a sense of justice.

Your promise to co-operate in whatever measures government may deem conducive to the interests, and consistent with the honor of the nation, and your pledge of your lives and fortunes, and all you hold dear, upon the success of the issue, are in the true spirit of men, of freemen, of Americans and genuine republicans.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE, the subscribers, a committee appointed by a respectable meeting of the inhabitants of Harrison county, in the Commonwealth

wealth of Virginia, holden at Clarksburch, for the purpose of expressing their sentiments of the measures pursued by our government with respect to France—beg leave to assure you, that although among the last in addressing, we are not less attached to our government—a government calculated to ensure liberty and happiness to its citizen. In plain undisguised language, we do not hesitate to declare, that the measures you have taken to promote a good understanding, harmony and peace, between this country and France, appear to us becoming your character, and deserving our confidence. But her refusal to meet your condescending plans of accommodation, except upon the condition of an advance of money, evinces on her part a spirit of avarice and tyranny, unknown among civilized nations, in modern times; and evidently shews, that having become haughty and arbitrary by her successes, she means to act as did ancient Rome.

But, Sir, we can congratulate you on her disappointment, in an essential matter, upon which she calculated highly—The want of attachment to our government, and a division of sentiment in regard to that nation. With infinite satisfaction must every true American view, that the alarm of war has silenced all essential differences in opinion, and a union of sentiment appears to prevail

universally throughout our land; and the day, we trust, is not far distant, when the odious distinction of *aristocrat* and *democrat* will be done away, and as one man we shall unite in the common cause. Had the desired object been obtained, upon the just and honorable terms proposed, we would have cheerfully united with the warmest advocates for peace, the most lively expressions of mutual congratulation. — We cannot forget, that the very genius and principles of the religion we profess, teaches us, as much as possible, to live peaceably with all men; yet we conceive it not possible to maintain a friendly correspondence, or even to be at peace with a nation, that under the mask of philanthropy commits the greatest cruelties, exercises the most despotic sway, destroys all order, and establishes impiety by law. Viewing the matter in this light, we do not wonder, that the most just, wise and patriotic overtures of peace with the French nation, have proved abortive. Be assured, therefore, although war may be the consequence of your steady attachment to our real interests, we would rather immediately be called forth into the field of battle, in support of such measures as the constituted authorities of the Union shall adopt, for the defence and maintenance of our national independence, than enjoy a momentary delusive purchased peace.

We

We trust, that the God of our armies will aid us in defending what we thankfully enjoy as his gift;—and impute the guilt of offensive war, to those, who have rejected the offers of peace; who, without provocation, have plundered us on the high seas; who have endeavoured to subvert our government by the mean arts of seduction, and even now threaten us with revenge, unless we will succour them in their ambitious views of universal domination.

May that God who has graciously placed you at the head of our national affairs, long preserve your life, and make you the happy instrument of conducting us with safety through this impending storm.

To the INHABITANTS of HARRISON County.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received with great pleasure your address, from your committee. The attachment you profess to our government, calculated as it is, to ensure liberty and happiness to its citizens, is commendable. Your declarations, in plain and undisguised language, that the measures which have been taken to promote a good understanding, peace and harmony, between this Country and France, are becoming my character and deserving your confidence, is a great encouragement

agement to me. With you, I feel with infinite satisfaction, that the alarming prospect of a war, which is seen to be just and necessary, has silenced all essential differences of opinions, and that a union of sentiments appears to prevail very generally throughout our land. I believe, however, that the distinction of *aristocrat* and *democrat*, however odious and pernicious it may be rendered, by political artifice at particular conjunctures, will never be done away, as long as some men are taller, and others shorter, some wiser, and others sillier, some more virtuous, and others more vicious, some richer, and others poorer. The distinction is grounded on unalterable nature, and human wisdom can do no more than reconcile the parties by equitable establishments and equal laws, securing, as far as possible, to every one, his own. The distinction was intended by nature, for the order of society, and the benefit of mankind. The parties ought to be like the sexes, mutually beneficial to each other. And woe will be to that country, which supinely suffers malicious demagogues to excite jealousies, foment prejudices, and stimulate animosities between them.

I adore with you the genius and principles of that religion, which teaches, as much as possible, to live peaceably with all men; yet it is impossible to be at peace with injustice and cruelty, with fraud and violence, with

despotism,

despotism, anarchy and impiety. A paradise of peace would continue no longer than you continued to pay; and the field of battle at once, is infinitely preferable to a course of perpetual and unlimited contribution.

Deeply affected with your prayers for the continuance of my life, I can only say, that my age and infirmities scarcely allow me a hope of being the happy instrument of conducting you through the impending storm.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the INHABITANTS of the County of CAMPBELL, to His Excellency JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

IF the American government dare not make treaties with other nations without the consent of France; if the President of the United States dare not communicate to Congress the state of the Union without consulting France; if we are to be plundered of millions by the French, and dare not resent it; if we are to bribe the most corrupt government under the sun, and become tributary to it; in fine, if we are to submit to insults without number, or injuries unbounded, and keep our mouths sealed, and our

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hands

hands chained behind us ;—delusive indeed is our independence, and in vain have our ancestors fought and spilled the best blood of America.

Peace to us is truly desirable ; we wish to enjoy it ; but France seems determined to break down that vine and fig-tree, under which we were reposing.

America, and all the world, except France, can vouch for the sincerity of your exertions, to preserve an honorable peace ; and we verily believe that the whole tenor of your administration has been bottomed on a sincere wish for the real welfare of our common country, aided by eminent talents and the most solid judgment.

As well wishers to all mankind, we should feel abundant pleasure in seeing the French people peaceably settled under a well organized government ; but the name or nature of it is to us a matter of indifference, if they should be satisfied ;—but our good wishes do not carry us so far as to be willing to abandon to them one particle of our independence, to submit quietly to their intrigues, or to be drawn from that path which we have a right to pursue. We love our government, and believe it to be the best under the sun ; we place the highest confidence in the constituted authorities, and trust that the Executive will pursue such measures

measures as may best conduce to our welfare. It would be superfluous to add, that our persons and property are ready to protect our independence;—and that you may long continue its firm supporter, is the sincere wish of the citizens of Campbell.

From the INHABITANTS of SHEPHERD'S
TOWN and its vicinity in the County of
BERKELEY, to JOHN ADAMS, PRES-
IDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

IN the present eventful period, when un-
remitting depredations are committed on
our commerce, wanton cruelty exercised on
our seamen, the general government tradu-
ced, the Executive vilified, and our very
existence threatened by the French govern-
ment, and that through the means of our
own citizens; we deem it a duty we owe
to our country, to ourselves and to poster-
ity, publicly to declare our sentiments, and
to offer every support in our power to the
constituted authorities. We therefore de-
clare to you, Sir, that we are of opinion you
have done every thing that under the exist-
ing circumstances could be done, with due
regard to the general safety, true honor and
essential interest of the United States, to
cultivate a good understanding and preserve
peace

peace with the French nation. And that through the unexampled perfidy and unparalleled baseness of the conduct of that government towards us, nothing further can be attempted consistent with the maxims that constitute the basis of our national sovereignty. And we further declare to you, Sir, and to the world, that your administration of the executive government in all respects, meets our most cordial and hearty approbation; and should a storm await and our enemies assail us, while by the blessing of Providence we have ample resources, and a chief magistrate at the helm deservedly possessing our confidence, while we have a right to hope for the energetic concurrence of the legislative branches, and can appeal to Heaven for the justice of our cause, we fear no consequences, but are determined in any event to support the government of our own choice with our lives and fortunes.

*To the INHABITANTS of SHEPHERD'S-TOWN
and its vicinity, in the County of BERKLEY.*

GENTLEMEN,

THE generous sentiments of approbation and confidence conveyed in this nervous address, command my particular respect.

I had never until lately, any expectation, that I should live to see unrestrained depre-
dations

dations committed on our commerce, wanton cruelties exercised on our seamen, our general government trampled, the executive authority vilified, and our very existence threatened, through the means of our citizens, or any other, with impunity. I had no suspicion indeed, that mankind would ever have taken it into their heads, to try over again, experiments which had been a million times tried, and always found evil.

I am happy in your opinion, that every thing has been done, under the existing circumstances, that could be done by me, with a due regard to the general safety, true honor and essential interests of the United States. With you I clearly agree, that nothing further can be attempted, consistently with the maxims that constitute the basis of our national sovereignty.

Your cordial approbation of my administration of the executive government, in all respects is highly honorable and affecting to me.

Should our enemies assail us at home, you will have no reason to doubt of the energetic concurrence of the legislative branches, whose knowledge of our ample resources, must give them all necessary branches; whose persuasion of the justice of our cause, will enable them to make the last appeal when necessary, and whole American hearts will prompt

prompt them to support their country, with their lives and fortunes, in common with their fellow-citizens.

JOHN ADAMS.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

To the President of the United States.

SIR,

THE inhabitants of the town of Newbern, find an excuse for the freedom they exercise in this address to you, in the critical and alarming situation of the government, in a common concern for the preservation of its honor and independence, and in the warm approbation they entertain of your conduct since you have filled the office of chief magistrate of the United States.—You were called to it, Sir, at a crisis fraught with difficulty and danger, when neither the improved skill in the management of affairs, nor the pure integrity of intention could ensure an entire exemption from censure—At a crisis when the honor, interest and happiness of the United States, required that a distinct and impartial neutrality should be fairly maintained with all foreign powers, but which an artful and insidious set of men at the head of the government of the French republic, were laboring

laboring to interrupt and destroy—Abroad it required a constant exertion of the most wary and active penetration, to elude the toils they had set for it,—and at home, where you had a right to look for a cordial support, and a zealous and unanimous co-operation, you were forced to sustain your measures against the efforts of a deluded enthusiasm, propagated in the minds of some of our fellow-citizens, by an ill-grounded attachment to the French cause. But with a steady perseverance and exemplary firmness of mind, which no obstacles could weary, nor misrepresentations discourage, you have persisted in a regular and steadfast course of measures happily adjusted to the promotion of the honor of our national character, the advancement of our national prosperity and the preservation of our national rights—And it may be the felicity and the boast of the citizens of the United States, that in the series of these various and critical events, the firmness and independency of your mind never once deserted you, and that all the steps you have taken have been guided by wisdom, upon a clear and judicious knowledge of the characters with whom you had to deal, and upon a jealous and anxious regard for the honor, happiness and independence of the government.

Now that the hostile and views and nefarious designs of the French republic towards
the

the government of the United States have been exposed by the publication of the communications from our envoys, the love of our common country will produce a cordial unanimity of sentiment, and whatever may be the measures which the wisdom of our government may pursue to guard our national honor and protect our national rights, we are determined, with one heart, and one voice, to support them at the hazard of every domestic consideration which may be near or dear to us; and with an unshaken confidence, we repose our safety and honor in the energy of your character, and the wisdom of your mind, as a statesman.

To the INHABITANTS of the Town of New-
BERN,

GENTLEMEN,

AN address so cordial and respectful as this from the citizens of Newbern, and your warm approbation of my conduct, since I have filled the office of chief magistrate of the United States, I ought to hold in the highest estimation.

I was indeed called to it at a crisis fraught with difficulty and danger; when neither skill in the management of affairs, more improved than any I could pretend to, nor the purest integrity of intention, could secure an

an entire exemption from involuntary error, much less from censure.

There have been, for many years, strong indications that nothing would satisfy the rulers of the French, but our taking with them an active part in the war against all their enemies, and exhausting the last resources of our property to support them, not only in the pursuit of their chimerical ideas of liberty, but of universal empire: this we were not only under no obligation to do, but had reason to believe would have ruined the laws, constitution, and the morals of our country, as well as our credit and property.

An ardent enthusiasm, indeed, deluded for a long time too many of our worthy citizens.

The honor of your testimony to the integrity of my endeavors in so difficult a conjuncture, is very precious to my heart.

As the hostile views and nefarious designs of the French republic, are now too notorious to be denied or extenuated, I believe with you, that the love of our common country, will produce a cordial unanimity of sentiment.

This patriotic and spirited address is a clear indication of such desirable union, and will have a powerful tendency to encourage, strengthen and promote it.

JOHN ADAMS.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT *of the*
UNITED STATES *of* AMERICA.

SIR,

WE, the inhabitants of the town of Wilmington, in the State of North-Carolina, legally convened together, feel it to be our incumbent duty to address you at this very important crisis of the affairs of the United States in relation to the French republic.

Permit us to assure you, that we view with entire approbation the advances made by the executive authority of our own government to that of France, for an honorable and equitable adjustment of all differences between the two republics.

We do not affect to conceal that from a seeming congeniality of sentiment respecting civil liberty, and from the consideration that they were engaged with America in the conflict that terminated in her independence, we entertained a partiality and friendship for the people of France, so long as the establishment of a free and equal government appeared to be the virtuous object of their pursuit.

We lament, therefore, that those advances, instead of being reciprocated in the manner that from their great candor and liberality, might reasonably have been expected, (and which for the interests of both
nations

nations was devoutly to be wished) were repelled with indignity and contempt; and that it has become too evident, that principles replete with danger to this country, actuate the conduct of the present French government.

It must now be manifest to the world, that the unexampled moderation and forbearance of the government of the United States have served only to excite to new aggressions on the part of France, and that no other alternative remains as a choice for the former, than concession which would degrade our character as a nation, and sap the foundation of its independency—or to resort to those defensive measures which the spirit of the people and the resources with which God has blessed us, enable us to call (and we trust successfully) into operation.

Appreciating the advantages of peace, and contrasting with them the calamities incidental to an opposite state of things, we deprecate the approach of war; but still we do not hesitate to declare, that if that extremity unavoidably becomes the final resort, all the exertions that should be expected in so just a cause, from men animated by an ardent love for their country, and resolute to assert its rights and support its government, may be depended on from us.

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The annals of our country afford ample testimony of the zeal with which your talents and patriotism have been uniformly exerted in its service ever since it assumed an independent situation. Your conduct in the discharge of the duties of the high station you now fill, reflects new lustre on your character, and dignity upon the government over which you preside.

Thoroughly persuaded, therefore, that it will be the great object of your administration to promote the safety, honor and prosperity of our common country, we humbly implore the blessing of the Supreme Being upon your endeavors, and that you may experience his peculiar care and providence.



To the INHABITANTS of the Town of WILMINGTON.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR address, unanimously adopted at a meeting legally convened, has been presented to me by your senators in Congress, Mr. Martin and Mr. Bloodworth.

An assurance from the city of Wilmington, that you view with entire approbation, the advances made by the executive authority of your government to that of France, for an honorable and equitable adjustment of all differences between the two republics,

A D D R E S S E S.

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is of high value to me, and affords a convincing proof that Americans think and feel alike on great and essential objects, in all parts of the Union.

The friendship you entertained for the people of France, from a seeming congeniality of sentiment respecting civil liberty, and from the consideration that they were engaged with America in the conflict that terminated in our independence, so long as the establishment of a free and equal government appeared to be the virtuous object of their pursuit—far from being a reproach, was honorable to the disposition of your hearts.

The repulsion of our advances, candid, liberal and conciliatory, as all the impartial world will pronounce them, has indeed made it too evident, that principles replete with danger to this country, and to all others, actuate the conduct of the present French government.

It is also manifest to the world, that the unexampled moderation of America, has served only to excite new aggressions. Your declaration, that when the extremity of war becomes the final resort, all the exertions that should be exercised in so just a cause, from men animated by an ardent love of their country, and resolution to assert its rights and support its government, may be depended upon—will be satisfactory to ev-

ery branch of the government, and highly pleasing to all your fellow-citizens.

The testimony of the citizens of Wilmington, to my zeal and industry in the public service, is very dear to me; and your petitions for the blessings of the Supreme Being on my endeavors, and that I may experience his peculiar care and providence, can be answered only by supplications on my part, for your country, yourselves, and your posterity.

JOHN ADAMS.

From the OFFICERS of the GUILFORD REGIMENT of MILITIA, and the INHABITANTS of the County, to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

AN address presented to you at this time, on the subject of the relative situation of America with foreign nations, but more particularly with France, should at least possess some novelty of thought to procure with you an apology, or some strong reason urged, why it had been so long delayed, to merit your reply. We hope you will not anticipate any thing new, for in fact, we only mean to adopt and urge the many and the excellent sentiments which have been already

ready

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ready addressed to you, by our fellow-citizens throughout the Union.

Loving our country, determined to support it, its constitution, and the laws emanating from it; pleased with the administration of you, Sir, and your predecessor, who was and is no less beloved by you than by ourselves; detesting the parricidal principles of France, which not only seem, but really are subverting every government within their vortex;—can we be acquitted in our own minds? could we be in the opinion of our fellow-citizens, did we hesitate to make this declaration?

We abhor the modern innovations, and that word "*reform*," which in the fond credulity of our imaginations, we believed to be for the amelioration of the situation of man; we now shun it as we would a monster ready to engulph all social order, annihilate civil government, and subvert the heretofore approved course of things.

If France, compelled by that imperious necessity, which is sometimes an apology with the historian, for acts tending to destroy a social compact, could even produce that, an improper prejudice of America might still furnish her with apologists;—but when we see governments never yet obnoxious even to fanciful writers, as well as those which imagination had formed tyrannical,
and

and *our own*, which has for its basis every principle preservative of the happiness and security of virtue and industry, attempted to be destroyed ;—can we resist the impulse of declaring that her nominal government is an unheard of tyranny—a compact which would as rapidly, and as effectually destroy our rising empire, as an army of their myrmidons might for the moment affect our internal order.

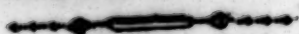
If we have not expressed these opinions so early as most of our fellow-citizens, receive, Sir, our apology ;—so large an apportionment of the county of Guilford, never convened together as on this day, since the dispatches from our envoys to France, arrived, and delicacy of sentiment of those who did, prevented them from obtruding their opinions, as of those, who did not.

It is needless to tell you that your administration has our warmest approbation ;—it is needless to tell you our determined resolution to support the measures of that administration ; and it is only from your great and well-known goodness, we can hope an excuse for not expressing those opinions before this day.

We believe sincerely with you, Sir, in a sentiment lately expressed, that much indeed of our safety depends on the exertions used for the establishing an American navy, and that

that a part of our fellow-citizens cannot be more beneficially employed, than by endeavoring to perfect it.

May that kind Providence, which has watched over the liberty and independence of the United States, continue its protection to you, one of their choicest guardians, and long preserve a life dear and essential to its country's happiness.



To the OFFICERS of the GUILFORD REGIMENT of MILITIA, and the INHABITANTS of the County.

GENTLEMEN,

THE unanimous address adopted by you, has been transmitted as you directed, by Major John Hamilton to Mr. Steele, and by Mr. Steele to me.

Addresses like yours, so friendly to me and so animated with public spirit, can never stand in need of any apology. It is on the contrary, very true, that the affectionate addresses of my fellow-citizens have flowed in upon me from various parts of the Union, in such numbers, that it has been utterly impossible for me to preserve any regularity in my answers, without neglecting the indispensable duties of my office. This, and a long-continued and very dangerous sickness in my family, most seriously alarming to me, will,

will, I hope, be accepted by you and by all others whose favors have not been duly noticed, as an apology for a seeming neglect, which has been a very great mortification to me. There is no language within my command, sufficient to express the satisfaction I have felt, at the abundant proofs of harmony and unanimity among the people in the Southern States, and in none more remarkably than in North-Carolina.

Your patriotic address, adopted on the ground where a memorable battle was fought by freemen, on the fifteenth of March, 1781, in defence of their liberties and independence, is peculiarly forcible and affecting.

JOHN ADAMS.



*From the INHABITANTS of MOORE County,
to the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.*

SIR,

THE present critical situation of America, with respect to foreign nations, calls upon its citizens as we conceive, to evince a spirit of harmony and unanimity among themselves; more especially at a juncture when it has artfully and maliciously been represented by our enemies that we are a divided people. We on our part have therefore thought it our duty openly to express our sentiments

sentiments on this subject; and to assure you as chief magistrate of our country, that we have entire confidence in its government; that we approve of the administration of our present Executive, particularly in its late endeavors to establish pacific measures with France; and that we are united, ready and determined, to oppose the machinations of that or any other foreign power, which shall attempt to invade our rights. In this we express the general sense of our country, and, we trust, of all America.



From the PEOPLE of CHAPEL HILL and its vicinity, and the YOUNG MEN of the UNIVERSITY, to JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE have long witnessed with deep concern, a disposition in the French government to abuse their power, in proportion as it has been increased. After it has grown, by a rapid and continued succession of victories to a most extraordinary size, their profligacy and injustice are become no less extraordinary, and they have promiscuously confounded friends with foes in their piratical and predatory assaults. Had the barbarians themselves (for they have taught us the comparison) possessed the strength and
means

means which that people have gained, we, with the rest of the nations, must have expected to have our vessels taken, our citizens stript of their property, our seamen abused and mercilessly thrown into dungeons, or left to beg the necessaries of life. But could we ever have imagined, that France, a nation, but lately inferior to none in humanity of sentiment, and refinement of manners, could so soon degenerate into barbarism as to be guided by no law but power, or restrained by no considerations but those of necessity? It is not without much surprize and regret, that we are at length forced to believe a nation capable of this shocking change in so short a period. When we consider how many others have been led on by the same example through the same change, we rejoice we yet feel ourselves to have been in no great degree affected by its influence. We reflect with satisfaction, that the strong chain of connexion that held us together at the commencement of their revolution, has not availed to drag our government and people into the same frightful gulf with themselves, but that our eyes have been open to explore the course they were taking, and that in proportion as we have discovered the danger, we resolved, and succeeded, to disengage ourselves.

It has not been without a struggle in our bosoms, that we took so unpleasing a resolution;

tion ; but when justice, religion and national independence must have been surrendered without it, we could no longer hesitate a moment.

Although our people have been divided in sentiment even on this subject, as well as on others, yet when we are told that our differences are made a ground on which to form a plan for destroying our government, or infringing our rights, we cannot but revolt at the ungenerous thought, and execrate the man who could think of acting on so base a principle.

It is to convince you, Sir, and the enemies who have calculated on so insidious a scheme of the mistake they are in, and the severe disappointment they are likely to suffer should they further proceed upon it, that we undertake thus publicly to address you. And although it is thus late that we have done it, we trust that it is with no less sincerity, than others who have preceded us. Whatever political disagreement may have subsisted among us, or however unfortunate they may have been in their effects, we shall never harbor the ignoble thought of sacrificing our country, our government, or its administration, to the accomplishment of local or personal views. After the proofs we had given of our insuperable love of independence, in our struggle against Britain, none but those who had experienced in
E c themselves

themselves a most unaccountable degeneracy, could have imagined we should be willing so soon to renounce it for the sake of retaining the favor, or promoting the views of any other nation under heaven. But when we consider the wanton and unprecedented conduct of the Directory in setting at nought the ordinary laws of nations, and assuming to create a new code fitted to their own purposes of plunder and violence; when we reflect on their unworthy treatment of our ambassadors, and the unexampled insults they have returned for all the anxiety which you, Sir, in conjunction with our government, have manifested for peace and justice, we can no longer remain silent spectators: We feel it our indispensable duty to declare, that we have an unimpaired confidence in your wisdom and administration; that we feel an attachment to your person as our chief magistrate, and one who has borne a distinguished part in the defence and establishment of our rights and liberties—and that when those liberties and rights are placed at stake, we are ready to stand by you and our government, to defend both at the expense of our last blood.

We cannot but consider our commerce, and that worthy class of our fellow-citizens who are employed in it, as entitled to the same protection with ourselves. It would be blindness in us not to perceive the merit
of

of that part of society, who brave the dangers and hardships of the ocean, to supply us with what we should wish with the utmost difficulty and disadvantage, provide for ourselves, and which we have a perfect right to obtain without molestation, by a fair and honest commerce with all who are willing to trade with us.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

The ADDRESS and MEMORIAL of the CITIZENS of CHARLESTON, to JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES,—

SHEWETH RESPECTFULLY,

THAT your memorialists learnt, with the most sincere satisfaction, the appointment, by the executive government of the United States, of a solemn embassy, duly empowered and wisely instructed, to endeavor to remove all differences with the French republic, and to maintain the relations of amity and peace between the two countries.

That your memorialists have understood with the deepest regret, that the spirit of conciliation and peace manifested by the government of the United States, hath been met by a spirit of hostility in the councils of the French republic ; and that the ministers of
peace

peace had not been admitted to the privilege of an audience, scarcely ever denied among civilized nations.

That the most unreasonable demands have been made upon this country, by persons pretending and appearing to act under the authority of the French government, (but which, it is sincerely hoped, not with the sentiments of the people of France) without even the pretence of injury or wrong having been committed—demands which, if submitted to, would prostrate the United States at the feet of France, and convert her from a free and independent nation, into a tributary and degraded province.

Your memorialists are astonished to find that these demands have been perseveringly urged, upon a presumption that the Americans were a divided people, and would never unite in support of their own government, in opposition to these demands; and that upon this fallacious idea, our commerce hath been harraßed, without redress; and our peace and our independence are threatened.

Deeply afflicted at this state of the public affairs, your memorialists feel themselves irresistibly impelled to make a full, solemn and explicit declaration of their sincere attachment to the constitution and government of the United States; and of their fixed resolution to maintain and support them against
all

all foreign encroachment and dominion, at the hazard of their lives and fortunes.—Your memorialists are but too well acquainted with the miseries and calamities of war, and they would willingly have averted them by the sacrifice of secondary interests. But they do not hesitate to declare their preference of every calamity to a servile subjection to a foreign yoke.

Your memorialists repose confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the constituted authorities; and trust that the most prompt, vigorous and efficacious steps will be taken, “to provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity;” and they submit, to the discretion of the government, the measures essential to the attainment and security of these great objects.

*From the INHABITANTS of CLARKSON
County, to the PRESIDENT, SENATE, and
House of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.*

GENTLEMEN,

WHEN our peace and independence is menaced by a formidable though perfidious nation, who, aspiring to the domination of the world, violates, in the career of her ambition, all bonds of good faith, and all ties of that friendship which heretofore happily

subsisted between that nation and our own, —we think it not improper in us, nor disagreeable to you, that we come forward under an open avowal of the sentiments which actuate us at this momentous crisis.

Deeply impressed with a sense of your wisdom and patriotism, and cordially approving of the pacific measures you have taken to effect a reconciliation and an amicable adjustment of the differences between the two nations, we cannot but feel an indignation, worthy the breasts of freemen, at seeing those measures rejected with haughty contempt by the French government. And notwithstanding we deprecate the calamities of war, yet we view them as but a secondary consideration compared with the degradation of our national dignity, and the subversion of our government.

Relying firmly on the wisdom and fidelity of the constituted authorities of the United States, we do not hesitate to declare, that we will support, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, any measures that they may think proper to adopt for the defence of our country's rights; and that we will evince to the world we are not a divided people.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

—SIR,

THE inhabitants of the town of Cambridge and its vicinity, in the district of
Ninety-Six,

Ninety-Six, and State of South-Carolina, having assembled for the purpose of taking into consideration the political state of our own country, beg leave to state to you, as chief magistrate of the United States, our sincere regret, that, from present appearances, we are likely to be involved in the war, which for years past, has desolated a considerable part of Europe. Although as citizens, we hold sacred the right of judging of the conduct and measures of our rulers, and expressing freely and publicly our opinions thereon, yet we shall always view with a jealous eye, and will repel, with the energy of republicans, (who have fought for, and of course know the value of genuine liberty) the attempts of any foreign nation, who may shew a disposition to interfere in the councils of our country. We therefore beg leave, through you, to assure our fellow-citizens throughout the Union, that although agricultural in our habits, and attached to the paths of peace, we are, to a man, united to defend our country from the unjust aggression of any foreign power, and prepared, with our lives and fortunes, to defend the constitution and independence of our country, and to support its officers in the constitutional and legitimate exercise of all their functions.

GEORGIA.

GEORGIA.

TO JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE inhabitants of the city of Savannah and its vicinity, impressed with the value of national independence, and of the wisdom and virtue which have characterized a government so happily calculated to ensure and preserve this blessing, cannot withhold their approbation to the measures which you have pursued at a juncture so critical to the United States, as the present.

Fondly anticipating the restoration of a good understanding on principles compatible with justice and honor, with a nation for whom America had always manifested sentiments of the most real and undisguised friendship, they saw with pleasure the departure of the commissioners entrusted with this object, whose personal characters justified an entire confidence (and which the event has proved not to have been misplaced) that no suitable means would be neglected in pursuing the important object of their mission. And notwithstanding the painful and inexpressible sensation which the conduct of men, at the head of a government once our allies and friends, excited, there remains a consolation,

consolation, that the cause and responsibility of this conduct will rest on themselves alone. And it is with great pleasure that we congratulate you, Sir, and our country on the wise and prudent measures you have pursued for the preservation of peace and the protection of our independence; we believe that you have done as much for the attainment of the first of these objects, as a due regard for the other would justify or permit;—and should the last argument of nations, a resort to arms, become indispensable for the protection of those rights which are the most dear to us—we pledge ourselves for the support of our government, by which alone they can be secured, and at the hazard of our lives and properties, to convince the world that we will take no share in the disgrace of being considered a divided people.

TO JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.

SIR,

A MEETING of the inhabitants of the town of Washington and county of Wilkes, in the State of Georgia, having delegated to us, as a committee, the power of addressing in their names the chief executive magistrate of the Union on the present situation of public affairs as they relate to foreign nations,
we

we embrace the earliest opportunity to discharge the trust so reposed in us.

Whilst we cannot but deplore the present prospect of national calamity, and anticipate with sensibility the deep distress which must be common in our country should that prospect be realized, we should at the same time express to you, sentiments the reverse of those which universally pervade this part of the community, were we not to attribute the impending evils to the injustice of those with whom we are connected by public ties. To the constant endeavors of the American government for the maintenance of its neutrality, have been opposed the intrigues of foreign courts to involve it in the labyrinth of European wars.—To unremitting and sincere exertions for the preservation of peace and the cultivation of harmony, have been opposed unwarranted encroachments on our most sacred rights, and studied indignity to our applications for reparation.

Foreign nations have represented the Americans to be a divided people. Were we in reality so, their conduct would not fail to unite us ;—and should any daring invader on the common rights of human nature presume to enforce its unjust purposes by public force, experience will then teach them they have been deceived.

Although

Although we are here surrounded—on one side by powerful savage tribes, among whom the intrigues of foreign agents are generally too successful; bounded on another by the territories of a nation apparently not altogether friendly; and open on a third to the approaches of the weakest naval armaments; yet, Sir, the people of this country feel no disposition to submit with tameness to outrages upon common justice, and insults upon public and individual honor. They view with indignation the unprecedented violations of national rights committed by those to whom the American government have assiduously held out the olive branch of peace.—They feel the strongest emotions of resentment for the shameful demands made, as terms upon which our public ministers might obtain the privilege of representing our grievances. With an acquiescence in such requisitions, may the American character never be tarnished.

We cannot forego the present occasion to declare the grateful sense we entertain for the anxiety manifested by the federal Executive for the prosperity of our common country, and the preservation of our general happiness. The citizens of our community cannot but applaud that spirit of moderation which prompted the American government, after repeated indignities, to make a last struggle for amicable accommodation of existing

existing differences. Notwithstanding more has been done than could have been justified by any other principle, than that of an ardent and sincere desire for the preservation of peace, the prospect has with every step become more gloomy. Our solicitudes and our concessions have added insults to injury. To concede farther, would render us a degraded people—to ask more from those who have set at defiance the acknowledged principles of national justice and national honor, would render us undeserving of the respect of all mankind.

Under these impressions, we are prepared for the worst. Through you, Sir, as the chief organ of our country, we beg leave to express our confidence in the constituted authorities of the government. Be assured that the people of this part of the community are impressed with a firm determination to resist any encroachments which may have for their object, either an interference with the sovereignty of our country, or an aggression upon our public or individual rights. And the government of the United States will receive our most decided support to any measures which may be adopted for the maintenance of our national honor, and the preservation of our independence.

GENERAL

WASHINGTON: LETTER. 95

**GENERAL WASHINGTON: LETTER
APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER IN
CHIEF OF ALL THE ARMIES OF THE
UNITED STATES.**
Mount Vernon, 15th July, 1798.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD the honor on the evening of the 11th instant, to receive from the hand of the Secretary of War, your favor of the 7th, announcing that you had, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed me "Lieutenant-General and Commander in Chief of all the Armies raised, or to be raised, for the Service of the United States."

I cannot express how greatly affected I am at this new proof of public confidence, and the highly flattering manner in which you have been pleased to make the communication; at the same time I must not conceal from you my earnest wish, that the choice had fallen upon a man less declined in years, and better qualified to encounter the usual vicissitudes of war.

You know, Sir, what calculation I had made relative to the probable course of events, on my retiring from office, and the
F. J. determination

determination I had consoled myself with, of closing the remnant of my days in my present peaceful abode: you will therefore be at no loss to conceive and appreciate the sensations I must have experienced, to bring my mind to any conclusion that would pledge me, at so late a period of life, to leave scenes I sincerely love, to enter upon the boundless field of public action, incessant trouble, and high responsibility.

It was not possible for me to remain ignorant of, or indifferent to, recent transactions. The conduct of the Directory of France towards our country; their insidious hostility to its government; their various practices to withdraw the affections of the people from it; the evident tendency of their acts and those of their agents to countenance and invigorate opposition; their disregard of solemn treaties and the laws of nations; their war upon our defenceless commerce; their treatment of our ministers of peace; and their demands amounting to tribute;—could not fail to excite in me corresponding sentiments with those my countrymen have so generally expressed in their affectionate addresses to you. Believe me, Sir, no one can more cordially approve of the wise and prudent measures of your administration. They ought to inspire universal confidence, and will, no doubt, combined

WASHINGTON, LETTER. 331

with the rate of change, call from Congress such laws and means as will enable you to meet the full force and extent of the crisis.

Satisfied, therefore, that you have sincerely wished and endeavored to avert war, and exhausted to the last drop the cup of reconciliation, we can with pure hearts appeal to heaven for the justice of our cause; and may confidently trust the final result to that kind Providence which has hitherto, and so often, signally favored the people of these United States.

Thinking in this manner, and feeling how incumbent it is upon every person, of every description, to contribute at all times to his country's defense, and especially in a moment like the present, when every thing we hold dear is so seriously threatened; I have finally determined to accept the commission of Commander in Chief of the Armies of the United States; with the reserve only, that I shall not be called into the field until the army is in a situation to require my presence, or it becomes indispensable by the urgency of circumstances.

In making this reservation, I beg it to be understood, that I do not mean to withhold any assistance to arm and organize the army, which you may think I can afford. I take the liberty also to mention, that I must decline having my acceptance considered as drawing

drawing after it any immediate charge upon the public, or that I can receive any emoluments annexed to the appointment, before entering into a situation to incur expense.

The Secretary of War being anxious to return to the seat of government, I have detained him no longer than was necessary to a full communication upon the several points he had in charge.

With very great respect and consideration,

I have the honor to be,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

G. WASHINGTON.

JOHN ADAMS,

President of the United States.

In making this reservation, I beg it to be understood, that I do not mean to withhold any assistance to the army and organize the navy, which you may think I can afford. I take the liberty also to mention, that I most desirably have my acceptance confirmed as

DISTRICT OF MAINE

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~~RECEIVED~~

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ADDRESS of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of Bristol, in answer to a Resolution of the House of Commons, passed on the 12th of May 1840, relative to the Trade of Agriculture in the County of Bristol. — Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council and Freeman of the City of Bristol.

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Wm. Brown, North East.

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SUBSCRIBER NAMES

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John Richardson, Clerk	Capt. Michael Thayer, Boston
Michael J. Quinn, Clerk	John Thayer, Clerk
Buckley, R. O.	Abraham Tuckerman, do.
John M. Russell, Esq. Clerk	Edward Tuckerman, do.
Samuel A. Russell, O. J. Clerk	George W. Tuckerman, do.
Samuel A. Russell, O. J. Clerk	John Tuckerman, do.
Samuel A. Russell, O. J. Clerk	Capt. Gilbert Turner, Salem
Samuel A. Russell, O. J. Clerk	Joseph Vincent, Salem
John Smith, Clerk	Capt. T. W. Walker, Clerk
John Smith, Clerk	Capt. David Walker, Clerk
David Scott, Esq.	Anna W. Walker, Clerk
Thomas O. Seabury, A. B. Clerk	James W. Walker, Clerk
John C. Seabury, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Robert Seabury, Clerk	William W. Walker, Clerk
William Seabury, Clerk	Capt. Edward W. Walker, Clerk
Richard Sullivan, A. B. Clerk	Michael W. Walker, Clerk
John Sumner, Clerk	Edw. W. Walker, Clerk
Charles F. Sumner, A. B. Clerk	Oliver White, Clerk
Samuel Swift, Clerk	David W. Walker, Clerk
Joseph Sutherland, Clerk	Capt. William W. Walker, Clerk
Richard Swift, Clerk	N. W. Walker, Clerk
Joseph Sutherland, Clerk	J. W. Walker, Clerk
Anna Sutherland, A. B. Clerk	Rev. Wm. Walker, D. D. Clerk
F. S. Sutherland, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Capt. David Scott, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Capt. James Smith, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Loyd Smith, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
John Smith, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Rev. Samuel Smith, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
John Smith, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Anna Sutherland, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Samuel Tappan, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
William Tappan, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Gen. Jonathan Tappan, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Gen. Thomas Tappan, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Benjamin Tappan, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Nicholas Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Stephen Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Samuel Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Benjamin Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
E. Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Daniel A. Tracy, Esq. Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Edw. Tracy, Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk
Hall Tracy, A. B. Clerk	John W. Walker, Clerk



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